HALESOWEN



Thursday, June 13, 2013

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Online rescue

Facebook posting saved life of Molly the bulldog Page 3



Memory Lane

Town's picture album offers peek into the past



Local rivals meet

Halesowen lose out to Stourbridge in derby clash



Luke says he's ready to clear his name



Luke with father Patrick
LUKE Walker has returned
home to prepare to fight to
clear his name after being
convicted of killing his girlfriend on Crete.
The 25-year-old returned
home to Brierley Hill from
Crete last week – nine days
after being found guilty of
causing grievous bodily
harm, leading to the death of
Chelsea Hyndman, 20.
He flew to Birmingham
with parents Patrick and
Lindy, and said: "I want to
try to get on with my life and
would like to find a job as a
personal trainer, but all this
pressure is draining me.

pressure is draining me.

pressure is draining me.

"I am going to get some rest and then start all over again. This has been three years of misery but I am not going to give up now. I have got to clear my name."

His 57-year-old electrician father said: "This case has broken us financially. We have spent every penny we had."

Luke has appealed

Luke has appealed, meaning a jail sentence was suspended until a further

Firefighters cut boy free

A BOY aged five had to be cut free after getting his arm stuck in railings at his school

stuck in railings at his school playground.
Firefighters from Brierley Hill were called to Colley Lane Primary School, Cradley, on Monday.
Firefighter Joe Farmer, from Brierley Hill station, said: "We had to cut some of the wooden railings away, it took us about five minutes to get him out.

"He was absolutely fine. He was overwhelmed by all the firefighters and teachers standing around him."

MPAIGNERS STEP JP THEATRE BATTL

by Adam Burling

CAMPAIGNERS will fight to get the decision to demolish Dudley Hippodrome overturned by a local government watchdog.

It was revealed at a public meeting at the weekend.

The event at the Station Hotel in Castle Hill was the first protesters had held since the council rejected their proposals to re-open the old theatre.

The Friends of Dudley Hippodrome had drawn up a detailed business plan – but this was dismissed by council chiefs who said the proposals would need up to £10 million of investment.

Friends chairman Geoff Fitzpatrick told the 60 people who attended the meeting that the council's final assessment of their business plan 'completely distorted' the actual details.

And historian Dr Paul Collins said the cam paigners would try to get the decision reviewed by the Local Government Ombudsman in the hope it would be thrown out.

Opportunities

He insisted the council's cost estimates had He insisted the council's cost estimates had been 'plucked out of thin air' and said the group needed a chance to prove the theatre could be used as an arts venue.

"We came up with a 10-point plan for exactly how we would reopen the theatre but none of it has been acknowledged," he said.

Mr Fitzpatrick, a former lecturer at Halesowen College, called on residents to put pressure on councillors by sending emails and raising the issue at their surgeries.

Campaigner Joanna Roden, who runs the Fusion Rock Choir in the town, said their ideas

such as holding theatre workshops offering training opportunities for young people, and even hosting weddings in the auditorium, had not been taken seriously.

not been taken seriously.
She said: "The Hippodrome would be a focal
point for arts education in the borough. Dudley
has had a small town mentality for too long.
This would attract people from all over the
Black Country and further afield."

Organisers had hoped councillors including the authority's leader David Sparks would attend – but none turned up. Bosses at Dudley Zoo have already announced plans for a new educational and conference centre on Hippodrome site.

Village tunes up for second music festival



Band co-ordinator Mark Moran and performer Joanna Grennan ready for the festival

MUSIC fans are getting ready for a village's second annual festival this weekend.

Romsley near Halesowen is staging the Romstock festival on Saturday and bands from across the region will be playing.

be playing.

The show is on the sports field, off St Kenelms Road,

field, off St Kenelms Road, starting at 1pm.
Groups performing include the reformed 1980s group Goats Don't Shave, Thin Lizzy tribute Dizzy Lizzy and Crowded Out, a tribute to Crowded House. Also on the bill are Kidderminster group Got The Tshirt, Soul Mania and Crazy Horses.
Bands co-ordinator Mark Moran said: "The event started last year with the Jubilee celebrations, and we

Jubilee celebrations, and we want to continue in that

Perfect

"We have got a good mixture of music, so there should be something for

everyone.

"This is like the next Glastonbury, and if the sun shines it will be a perfect environment for the whole family the listen to most." family to listen to great

music."
Romsley's own ska band
Romska Beat will also be
performing, and Birmingham punk poet Spoz will be
the master of ceremonies.
There will also be traditional fish and chips on offer
and a beer tent, while the
nearby skate park is for the
children.

children. The entrance fee will be £5 for adults or £15 for families, and all the money raised will go to community projects within Romsley.

Libraries are owed £39k by readers

DUDLEY council is owed

The outstanding fines date back five years. But one book checked out on November 1996 is still to be returned.

The figures have been released following a Freedom of Information

request.
Wolverhampton is owed £34,144.56 in late penalties.
Walsall and Sandwell councils said they didn't hold figures for book fine arrears. ngures for book fine arrears.
Dudley's director of adult,
community and housing
services Andrea Pope-Smith
said: "Library users in
Dudley borough now receive
pre-overdue notices by email to let them know their items on loan are about to become

overdue.
"We have had many com-"We have had many compliments from library users since this scheme was introduced during 2012 and would encourage all library users to update their records with an email address in order to benefit.

She said people could phone any library or go to the website to renew books. Wolverhampton Council is still waiting on a book checked out five years ago.

The amount owed to councils comes at a time when they are being forced to

they are being forced to make millions of pounds worth of savings due to cut-backs by the Coalition gov-ernment.

Memorial for former MP

for Dudley's longest-serving MP Lord John Gilbert, is being planned for the autumn.

But the funeral of the former MP and government minister, who later became a member of the House of Lords, will be private and held in London.

Lord Gilbert, who represented East Dudley for nearly 30 years until 1997, died aged 86 on June 2. He served under Prime Ministers Harold Wilson, James Callaghan and Tony Blair.

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Tom Mason: 01902 319466

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Traders' sadness at having to move

TRADERS at Brierley Hill's Concord Market say they are saddened, but not surprised, by the announcement that it is to close at the end of this month.

The last few traders there said it was once so bustling they struggled

was once so bustling they struggled

However, today the aged floor tiles stand out as a feature of the market, simply because so few people walk

29.

One trader, Jit Singh, who opened Jean Scene in the market 38 years ago, will run his business solely online, using a warehouse in Wolverhampton.

He said: "I have mixed feelings—

on the one hand I feel grateful for all the help the owners have given me over they years, but then I feel a bit bitter because of the lack of notice.

We were told last Tuesday, grving us only 14 working days to sort out and clear the stock – I have £100,000 worth of clothing.

"I have a very good group of customers who appreciate the personal touch – without us here, that will be gone."

Jason Brown, who runs Cobblers

for 27 years. Mr Brown said: "I'm trying to relocate to The Old Market in the town. There is no other shoe repair shop in Brierley Hill, we have an exclusivity here and we want to stay. Customers know where we are and come to us, but in recent times there has been a drop in diversity of traders here and that has led to a drop in passing trade.
"Times are tough but we have to

'Times are tough, but we have to

A SPEEDWAY star will promote the work of a Black Country charity by wearing their logo as he rides at tracks across the country.

Ashley Morris, who races for Dudley Heathens, has sealed a deal with Sedgley's Beacon Centre for the Blind.

The 19-year-old, from Wolverhampton, thought up the idea after seeing other riders baring the logos of charitable causes as they competed.

Mr Morris, who is fresh from representing his country in the Under-21s World Team Cup semi-final, says he is honoured to work with the charity which supports people living with sight loss.

He added: "The centre ports people sight loss.

Speedway

star is to

give lift

to charity

sight loss.

He added: "The centre does fantastic work with people of all ages.
"My team is running a competition for fans this season and I've decided to donate the takings to the Beacon Centre for the Blind to help them raise the profile of what they are all about and go on to help more people in the future."

Beacon Centre chief exec-

Beacon Centre chief executive, Arwyn Jones, said: "I am delighted that Ashley has chosen to support us and is helping us to raise aware-ness of the work we do.

"Support from young people, like Ashley, is vital if we are going to continue that work into the future."

£4.9m is boost to road plan

A NEW link road to tackle A NEW link road to tackle congestion in Kidderminster has taken a leap forward with a £4.9 million boost, allowing transport bosses to push ahead with the plans.

The government grant will be used to create the long-awaited route, which will divert traffic away from will divert traffic away from the town centre. Linking the A451 Stourport Road and the A442 Worcester Road, it will run through the 74-acre former British Sugar factory site, which is being devel-oped into a business park.

The first phase of the scheme, which will connect scheme, which will connect the Stourport Road with the site, will be carried out later this year. A planning appli-cation for the second phase is expected to be lodged in August, and the council hopes to secure a further £11million towards the project

Market losing £2k a month to close down

being in business for 40 years. Its owner has revealed it is losing £2,000 a month.

The market, Concord Market in Brierley Hill, has suffered from dwindling trade and to make matters worse it has been losing stall holders.

Now Shane Birch-Bastock has announced the closure.

The decision is a poismont are few Market and the statement and the statement are few Market and the statement and the stat

announced the closure.
The decision is a poignant one for Mr
Birch-Bastock because the market in
High Street, was set up by his father.
Brierley Hill councillor Rachel Harris
said the loss of the market would be a big
blow to the town.

blow to the town.

Only seven of the 25 stalls are occu-

pied - and four of those have already pied – and four of those have already given notice that they are leaving. The only stalls left are Jean Scene, Polly's Tea Room and Rose's Cafe. Brierley Hill's other High Street market a few yards away, remains

trading

Downward

"It's a sad thing but there has been a downward spiral over the last couple of years," said Mr Birch-Bastock, aged 45, who was brought into the business when he left school by his late father, Stan

Bastock.

"It's hard to put a finger on why it has been struggling – and it's ironic because our other market in Sedgley is doing eally well

"There is a waiting list of stall holders wanting to go in and it will remain open. "I should have made the decision to shut the Brierley Hill Concord Market a snut the Brieriey Hill Concord Market a year or more ago because it has been losing about £2,000 a month," he said. The market will shut on June 29. Mr Birch-Bastock, whose Brierley Hill company Pentax Developments owns

about 25 other businesses, is now start ing talks with the council about redevelng the market site

Family brass band date

FAMILIES are being urged to attend a brass band concert in Oldbury on June 23. Halesowen Brass Band will be showing off their skills at Barnford Hill Park in Moat Road, from 2.30pm to 4.30pm in appropriate the property of the property of

How controversial homes will look



An artist's impression of how the proposed housing development in Hagley, will look

THIS image of a development consisting of 175 homes in a village near Stourbridge was unveiled as detailed proposals were lodged

detailed proposals were lodged with planners.

A full planning application has been submitted by Cala Homes to build the estate in Hagley. Parish councillors and residents' groups have held discussions with the firm to shape the scheme which

firm to shape the scheme which prompted public protests and a 4,000-name petition. Campaigners say the scheme, which includes new office space, will exacerbate traffic problems in the village and put pressure on

school places and village facilities. Artist's impressions of the scheme, on land off Kidderminster Road, shows houses surrounded

by landscaped gardens.
Paved walkways will lead pedestrians into the new housing estate, with a pond being created in front of homes.

Traditional

Darren Humphreys, managing director of Cala Homes Midlands, said: "The detailed plans we have submitted are for a high-quality scheme, traditional in design and sensitive to its village location. The considerable contribution we will be making to improvements to local infrastructure and services will also mean that the development will benefit the wider com-

mente win beament the water community."
Hagley Parish Council chairman Councillor Steve Colella said campaigners were unlikely to object about these updated plans as the scheme had already won outline approval, but he said residents and parish councillors would continue to scrutinise the plans.
Outline planning permission was granted by Bromsgrove District Council at a meeting in January.



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borough's ex-mayor dies at 75

A FORMER Mayor of Dudley and long-standing councillor in Coseley has died, aged 75.
George Davies was one of the borough's longest-serving councillors over two terms with Dudley Council.
Councillor Davies represented the Coseley East ward from 1973 to 1976 and again from 1985 to 2013 for the Labour party.

He was Mayor of Dudley in 2000/01. During his time on the council, Councillor Davies served on numerous committees including being chairman of the housing committee from 1900 to chairman of the housing committee from 1990 to

Councillor Davies leaves behind his wife Joyce, three children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

child.

Councillor Davies' brother is Norman Davies, a former leader of Wolverhampton City Councill.

Councillor Alan Finch, Mayor of Dudley, said: "Councillor George Davies represented this borough with a tremendous amount of pride and passion. He was an extremely popular Mavor of pride and passion. He was an extremely popular Mayor of Dudley in 2000/01 and I, along with many other mayors looked up to him for guidance and support. He will be sadly missed."

More car parking for commuters

AN extra 175 parking spaces will be created at Stour-bridge Junction railway station as part of a £1.3 million project to expand the park and ride service.

The revamp will also include the creation of electric vehicle charging points and a cycle hub.

and a cycie nub.

Centro received a £2m grant towards work at the site and also at Kings Norton station, in Birmingham, and Four Oaks, in Sutton Coldfield.

The money has been awarded under the government's Local Pinch Point Fund, a £170m scheme to remove transport bottlenecks.

There are 780 spaces at Stourbridge Junction's car parks. But these are often parks. But these are often full by the end of the morning rush hour. Nearby roads also become clogged with cars left by commuters.

Tribute as Accidents at work cost police forces £1m



Steve Simkins

MORE than £1 million has been paid out in compensation to police and staff in the region who been involved in accidents at work — including being bitten by insects and falling off chairs.

Figures show that in one case more than £20,000 was handed out to an officer injured in Staffordshire after they tripped over, and West Mercia Police, which covers Hagley near Stourbridge, agreed compensation after an officer fell on a slippery floor.

given out for a breach of the data protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and protection step in given to employees for getting their fingers stuck in doors and falling off chairs.

Other cases include almost £8,000 being given out for insect bites and 600 for a worker injured by noise.

Most of the money — £849,028 — was paid out by the West Midlands force between 2009 and 2012.

Staffordshire Police paid out £51,121 in glue to the very and out £51,121 in and should be tightened for the very and staff in the region who been involved in accidents at work — including protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and protection set, independent on the vibrant, safe and protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and protection in the vibrant, safe and protection in ethic protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and protection in the vibrant, safe and protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and sustainable communities scrutiny panel which oversees crime and community safety in Wolverhampton.

Figures show that in one case more than £20,000 was handed out to anoffice in jure division and the vibrant, safe and protection act, and thousands of chairman of the vibrant, safe and sustainable communities scrutiny panel which oversees crime and communities scrutiny panel which oversees crime and communities scrutiny panel which oversees crime and communi

In the West Midlands £50,000 was

West Mercia paid out £51,121 in compensation between 2010 and

of duty and support them as they are protecting the public.
"But payouts for normal accidents such as insect bites seems farcical and should be tightened for the very secons that it is such is fund."

decisions over whether to pay out on claims were made through insurers'

decisions.

West Mercia Police spokeswoman

Purton said: "Details of West Mercia Police spokeswoman Sarah Buxton said: "Details of injuries and compensation payments are often more complex than statistics or brief details suggest. "For example, although an injury might initially be interpreted as minor if marter spring to eave more

minor it may transpire to cause more severe pain and suffering, and sometimes even long-term or permanent

Shock as new councillor dies

THE newly-elected UKII Worcestershire County Councillor Tony Baker died after collapsing in a

car park. Mr Baker, 69, suffered a Mr Baker, 69, suffered a cardiac arrest in the car park of Morrisons in Kid-derminster last week. He won the St Mary's seat in Kidderminster last

month.

Michael Wrench, of the Whichaef wrench, of the Wyre Forest branch of UKIP, said: "Tony was a staunch stalwart of the branch and a driving force behind the party's recent electoral success.

Woman cut free after car crash

A WOMAN had to be cut free from a car which left the road at a major traffic island in Dudley last

week.
Fire crews were called to the Cinder Bank island on Dudley Southern Bypass last Friday. Four people were in a Fiat Punto which mounted a

Punto white-grass verge.

One rear seat passen-in her early

One rear seat passenger, a woman in her early 20s, had to be cut free. She suffered back pain and a head injury and was taken to Russells Hall Hospital.

Former doctor's surgery for sale

Surgery for Sale

A DERELICT doctor's
surgery in Stourbridge has
been put up for sale, for
£225,000. Audnam Lodge,
in Brettell Lane, Audnam,
had been wanted by Lidl as
part of a planned expansion to its store next door.
But ofter the proposed was But after the proposal was thrown out by planners at Dudley Council, the Dudley Council, the surgery has now been put on the market.

Students aet tip on TV licences

STUDENTS moving back home from university and college for the summer hol-idays could get up a refund worth £36 on their TV

TV Licensing is reminding students to apply for the money back for the holidays.

Log on to www.tvlicensing.co.uk/ studentinfo or call 0300 790 6090.

Homes approved

PLANS for a bungalow in Lower Gornal have been approved. An application to build the two-bedroom property in Flavells Lane was given the go-ahead by Dudley Council. The com-mittee also approved a three-bed detached house in Swan Street, Pensnett.

Facebook advert saved the life of dying bulldog Molly

from keeping animals after they failed to look after their dving dog.

Joseph Salter and Cally Ricard knew their British bulldog's health was getting

their British bulldog's health was getting worse quickly.

But instead of taking the dog to a vet, they posted an advert on Facebook to sell it. The six-year-old dog, called Molly, was seriously ill with a tumour, but it was kept 'collapsed and lethargic' in the couple's back garden on a soaking wet cushion. But the dog was saved when two prospective buyers – Joanne Bennett and Natalie Marris – inwediataly buydth the net from

Morris – mandiately bought the pet from the couple for £80, and took it to the RSPCA.

At Dudley Magistrates' Court last week, At Dudley Magistrates' Court last week, Salter, aged 22, of Penwood Crescent, Quarry Bank, and Ricard, 22, of Lakeside Court, Brierley Hill, pleaded guilty to failing to getting veterinary care for the dog and failing in their duty as owners. The court heard how the dog, which was inherited by the couple three months before it was sold, could barely walk.

Worried

In an interview, Salter said they could not afford veterinary care, while Ricard said she believed the dog 'loved' the outdoor cushion, adding it was allowed in the kitchen overnight.

After the advert was placed on Facebook, the dog was viewed by friends Joanne Bennett and Natalie Morris, from Halesowen, who were so worried for the animal's health they bought it on the spot.

The women had to drag Molly through the couple's former home in Woods Crescent in Brierley Hill, to get it to their car.

Nick Sutton, prosecuting, said: "This animal was very sick. The defendants both knew it was sick, but the only action they

knew it was sick, but the only action they took was to try and sell it.
"They must have known what was going

"They must have known what was going on, this was a sick animal and if it wasn't for the actions of these two ladies, it would not be alive today."

Mr Sutton said the couple received the dog from their landlord after moving into the property in December 2011.

He said the dog was brought to the attention of the RSCPA by Mrs Bennett and Mrs Morris in February last year.

He said: "The women went to the address



to ask about the dog – Mr Salter answered the door and they were shown into the back garden where the dog was found on a small cushion.

"It was dirty and mouldy, one of the was unty and mouldy, one of the women said it was soaking wet. Both the ladies were surprised when the animal did not move. One described it as lethargic and collapsed."

He added: "Both found the matter upset-

Banning

He added: "Out of naivety the couple tried to sell the dog.

The Dudly magistrates adjourned sentencing of the pair for probation reports.

Cally Ricard, also 22

Among the sentencing options open to them is a banning order restricting the couple from owning any pets.

After the hearing, Mrs Bennett, aged 43, of Halesowen, said the dog had now fully recovered and was being looked after by Mrs Morris 45

She said: "We had to get the dog out of the house and to a place where it would be cared







OF PETER

AND off to that great English institution, the agricultural show, where townies gawp at what goes on in the countryside. I had great sympathy for the line of pedigree rams who waited nervously for a judge to reach between their hind legs and squeeze their testicles. They reacted exactly as you would expect by trying to leap out of the ring. You don't see that sort of thing at the Mr Universe competition.

00000000

THE one thing missing from our local show was that essential part of modern life, a punch-up. Whacking total strangers for no particular reason, preferably in front of terrified children, is very fashionable. In the last few days alone, a village dog show in Kent descended into screaming matches and fist fights with punches being thrown at teenage volunteers. Some folk objected to their pooches not getting rosettes while others were unhappy at the getting roseries while of the state of the parking arrangements. There was a punch-up, too, at the gates of an infant school in Cornwall. A row which began between two mothers escalated to the point where police had to use pepper spray to arrest a man who was attacking a woman.

A READER tells me he was waiting at the lights when A READER tells me he was waiting at the lights when the car in front suddenly reversed into his car. The other driver was contrite and polite, exchanged details and said: "Don't report it to your insurance company; just send me the bill." Next thing he knew was that the other driver was claiming my reader had driven into him, causing him whiplash. To his fury, his insurer is proposing to settle what sounds like a deliberately staged incident on a 50:50 basis.

IF YOU think Britain's had a property crash, consider the apartment spotted for sale by a reader just back from Menorca. It has been reduced from 230,000 euros to 100,000 euros.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Driver sent to prison Dates for residents for road rage attack

punched a father of six in a road rage attack

was jailed for 20 months.
The attack happened after the victim, pedestrian Paul Currie, urged driver Samuel Pagett to slow down.
Mr Currie, a former army corporal with the Staffordshire

The court heard Mr

saying 'you are going too fast' moments before he was

Pagett's actions as 'a moment of madness' but

moment of madness' but said Pagett had shown remorse and had pleaded guilty at the first opportu-nity.

The victim's family were angry at the sentence. Mr Currie's mother Mary Hill, aged 62, said: "The sentence

aged 52, Said: I ne sentence is absolutely disgusting. What about Paul's family and what they have been through? Where is the justice in that sentence? What about the stress caused to his family?"

His step-father Malcolm Hill, aged 67, added: "It has deprived him of his liveli-hood and changed his life."

described

assaulted.
Andrew
defending,

Mr Currie, a tormer army corporar with the stational Regiment, was walking back to his home on the holly Hall estate, in Dudley, after playing darts with friends at The Woodside pub on January 13.

He saw a car driven by following the attack The court heard Mr. Currie was now undergoing physiotherapy, and had lost his sense of smell and taste following the attack.

Blondelle Thompson, prosecuting, said Mr Currie had called out to Pagett, saving two are going too.

on January 13.

He saw a car, driven by
Pagett, driving at speed
along Newland Grove and
gestured and shouted at him to slow down.

him to slow down.

But Wolverhampton
Court Court heard Pagett
stopped his car, got out, and
delivered a single blow
which floored 41-year-old
Mr. Currio

Physiotherapy

The victim was in an induced coma for three days and was in hospital for 11 days. He remains unable to return to his job as a lorry driver and needs more treatment.

Pagett, aged 25, of Cot Lane, Kingswinford, who worked as a car valeter, pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to inflicting griev-

hearing to inflicting griev-ous bodily harm on Mr Currie.

Jailing him for 20 months Judge Amjad Nawaz said: "These are life changing injuries."

Tailor made for you

Youngsters score for little Jack



Young players Connor Edge, aged 12, left, and Liam Hunter, 12, right, with Terri Gricic and son Jack and Colts club treasurer Carl Bottley

YOUNG players and managers at a Dudley football club have raised money to help a youngster who is recovering after a road accident.

accident.

Jack Pinder was just three when he was badly hurt in the collision in Wollaston, Stourbridge, in 2011. Since then he has been learning to cope with not being able to talk, and being blind in one eye and deaf in one ex. He also struggles to walk. Members of

Netherton Colts pledged to help and have raised $\pounds 1,030$ through raffles.

Jack's mother Terri Gricic, aged 33, said: "It's amazing. We're really happy and they're such lovely people too."

Miss Gricic, of Lyttelton Road, Wollaston, said Jack would either have sensory equipment so he could enjoy the garden, or a specially-adapted bicycle.

to raise concerns

PEOPLE can discuss local

PEOPLE can discuss local issues at forum meetings.
Castle and Priory, St James's and St Thomas's community forum is Monday, St Barnabas Church, Middlepark Road, Dudley; Netherton, Woodside and St Andrews and Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood forum, also Monday, Quarry Bank community centre, Sheffield Street.
Coseley East and Sedgley forum, Age Concern,

Coseley East and Sedgley forum, Age Concern, Sedgley, Ettymore Road, June 18; Gornal, Upper Gornal and Woodsetton forum, Parkes Hall social club, June 18; Halesowen North and Halesowen South forum, June 19, Olive Hill Primary School, Springfield Road, Norton, Pedmore and Stourbridge East, Wollaston and Stourbridge forum, Ham Dingle Primary, Stourbridge, June 19.

Ham Dingle Primary, Stourbridge, June 19.
Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South forum, June 25, Earls High School, Furnace Lane, Halesowen; Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley forum, St Mary's Parish Church Hall, The Village, Kingswinford; Amblecote, Cradley and Wollescote, Lye and Stourbridge North community forum, June 26, Wollescote Community Centre, Wassell Road; Brierley Hill, Brockmoor and Pensnett forum at Nine Locks Community Centre, Hill Street, on same day. All at 6.30pm.

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Metro is a boost

JOBLESS people are being offered the chance to fill dozens of posts being created by the £128 million extension of the Midland Metro tram system through Birmingham city centre.

Following talks with transport authority Centro and Birmingham City

and Birmingham City
Council, contractor Balfour
Beatty has signed up to the
employment access team,
which helps local jobless
people back into work.

The firm, which is building the actonion will take

ing the extension, will take part in the project over the next two years. As part of the scheme the firm has

the scheme the firm has agreed to provide up to 1,000 weeks of employment.

The extension, which is a partnership between Centro and the Black Country and Birmingham city councils, will see a 20-strong fleet of new trams deployed on the existing Metro line between existing Metro line between Birmingham and Wolver-

The employment programme works with job centres, colleges and employers to connect job-seekers in the Birmingham area with employment, education and training opportu-

Centro chief executive Geoff Inskip said: "The tram extension is a really impor-tant project for the people of the West Midlands and the prosperity of our region." prosperity of our region.

hailed as Tributes pour in as comic for jobless Lee loses fight with cancer

TRIBUTES have poured in for comedian Lee Wilson who died just weeks after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

The 74-year-old great-grandfather, whose real name was Geoff Beards, was a regular on the local comedy circuit and during his career mixed with some of the leading lights in the world of showbiz.

in the world of showbiz.

"He was the most wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather," said his widow Sheila Beards, aged 72, speaking at the family home in Pedmore, Stourbridge.
"He had a heart as big as a bucket."
He also leaves behind children Tracy, Lee and Debbie.
Mr Wilson, who was born in Wednesbury and lived in Tipton before moving to Stourbridge, started his showbusiness career in the mid-1950s as a musician. From 1957, he served two years with the Cheshire Redi

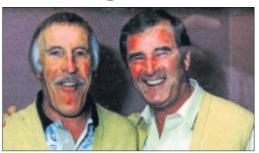
served two years with the Cheshire Regi-ment in Malaya, during which he formed a band entertaining the troops. Variety

Wariety

He turned professional in 1973 and went on to win New Faces in 1976 and starred on TV show The Comedians. He was also a familiar face on the popular Black Country Night Out evenings held in the region.

"He was brilliantly funny but spotlessly clean," said Mrs Beards.

A talented salmon and trout fisherman, Mr Wilson was also a popular after-dinner speaker and in 1991 he was invited to join the Variety Club of Great Britain Golfing Society, where he mixed with celebrities from showbusiness and sport, and in the following years helped to raise thousands of



TV favourite Bruce Forsyth with comedian Lee Wilson of Stourbridge







Much-loved comedian Norman Wisdom with Lee and wife Sheila in 2000

in brief

Deputy leader to talk at town bar

PAUL Nuttall, the deputy leader of UKIP – who is heavily involved in the party's 'Save the Pub' campaign – will speak at a Stourbridge bar later this month

month.
Mr Nuttall will be guest
of honour at Stourbridge
UKIP's fifth 'political
spice' event at the Britannia Sports Bar, High
Street, Wollaston, on June
24. The ticket-only event
will start at 7pm. Tickets
cost £5, including a meal,
and are available from
Glen Wilson on 0784
5556723.

Felicity has eyes on singing final

YOUNG singer Felicity Cox could soon be living

Cox could soon be living out her dreams to take to the stage in London by making the final of a national contest.

The 13-year-old from Stourbridge is hoping to progress to the final of the TeenStar singing competition in London.

Felicity, who goes to Redhill School, has already made it to the semi-finals. Now Felicity, of Rufford Road, is hoping to secure one of the wild-card entries to the main card entries to the main event on July 7.

Women warned

PREGNANT women are warned by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists that painting the nursery or buying furniture may put their unborn babies at risk from chemicals.

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NEWS FEATURE



GOD to see new Wolves coach Kenny Jackett will be giving the home-grown players a chance following his appointment to the Mollineux hot seat.

"I always look for young and hungry players," said Jackett as his first press conference in charge. He is in good company. Last year, following a shaky start to the season, Aston Villa manager Paul Lambert explained his youth-first policy. "I know that when you get really hungry players they can take you a long way, that's what we will try to do. If you don't have that hunger as a footballer, there's no point playing the game."

point playing the game.

Similarly, on announcing the signing of left-back Joe Bennett, signing of left-back Joe Bennett, Lambert told the assembled media: "Joe's a really good player, young and hungry to succeed and he's exactly the type of player we want here." Not to be outdone, West Bromwich Albion's Steve Clarke explained the philosophy behind their continued status as the top dogs in the West Midlands

dogs in the West Midlands.
"The players have the hunger,

he said.

One can only assume that the burger vans outside their respective grounds must be doing a roaring trade. Meanwhile, in other news, Wolves, Albion and Villa are embroiled in a £15 million bidding war for the young-and-hungry Oliver Twist.

STUDENT Ben Cronin claims he was refused a job as a punt tout on Cambridge's famous riverboats because he wasn't good looking enough.

"I went to speak to the man running the boats, but when I asked about a job, he laughed, saying: 'Sorry, mate, you have to be good looking to do this job', "said the 20-year-old psychology student. Sounds like they didn't like bis bestarse. One can only assume that the

said the 20-year-old psychology student. Sounds like they didn't like his boat race.

SORRY, but I can't buy into all the conspiracy theories about the Bilderberg conference, where the political leaders of Europe and North America are supposed to have spent the weekend discussing their plans for world domination.

domination.

First of all, look at the guest list.
Ken Clarke, Peter Mandelson. Ed Ken Clarke, Peter Mandelson. Ed Balls and George Osborne. Could you honestly see that lot success-fully organising a social event in a brewery, yet alone some dark and sinister plot to take over the world? Secondly, there's the venue. A 'luxury hotel in Watford'. No disre-spect to Watford, but it all sounds a bit Alan Partridge, doesn't it? Yes, we know David Icke thinks they are all descended from

they are all descended from lizards from the constellation Ilzards from the constellation Draco, and we should always be grateful for his constructive and interesting contributions to the debate. But the former Coventry City goalle's contribution aside, Idon't think I will be losing too much





The Midlands Air Ambulance have benefited from the sisters' knitting skills

Blanket coverage for Air Ambulance

Two sisters use their knitting skills to help the charity. CHARLOTTTE LILLEÝ finds out why they do it

YVONNE Smart, and Cathy Glear are familiar faces at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital and are a friendly sight for patients and staff who look

forward to their visits.

The sisters run a stall in the entrane of the hospital once a month, selling blankets, baby clothes, scarves, shawls and other garments they have knitted or crocheted.

All the money they raise goes towards Midlands Air Ambulance and since 2009, the two have collected a staggering

the two have collected a staggering £37,000.
"Our passion for knitting all began when we were little girls. We would watch Blue Peter on the TV and there would be someone knitting," says Mrs Smart, from Kingswinford.

Wrap

"Our mother taught us how to do it properly and since then we haven't stopped. Cathy and I have always enjoyed arts and crafts and were always doing something to keep ourselves busy when

we were younger.
"But knitting and crochet is what we do best and over the years we have made hundreds of things from blankets to baby

clothes.
"At Russells Hall there is a maternity

"At Russells Hall there is a maternity ward and new mothers love to come and see what we are selling for them to wrap their newborn babies in."

Mrs Smart, aged 55, used to work in a shop but now spends as much time as possible knitting garments for family and friends as well as the stall.

Her 59-year-old sister, from Netherton, who works as a foster mother, uses any free time she has to teach the craft to the children in her care. Mrs Smart says:



Yvonne Smart, right, with her husband David and her sister, Catherine Glear

Yvonne Smart, right, with her husband:
"We rarely have any spare time because
we are both always really busy, but
when we do you can bet that we will be
holding a pair of knitting needles."
"It is really simple to learn how to
knit and once you've mastered it, it's
like riding a bike, you never forget.
"I think knitting is becoming even
more popular now and a number of
celebrities have also started to take it
up, including Geri Halliwell, Russell
Crowe and the Duchess of Cambridge.
"It just goes to show that you can be
any age and still enjoy it and make a

d David and her sister, Catherine Glear truly unique garment." The rise of the internet and the increasing popularity of YouTube has meant it is much easier for people to learn how to knit.

And according to figures from the UK Hand Knitting Association, around four million women and almost half a million men have an interest in knitting and want to learn the craft.

"We have people come to us and ask us for tips. Cathy and I have both helped lots of people learn to knit over the years. I think it is very therapeutic," says Mrs Smart. "It is very satisfying

being able to make something from scratch that will be made of good strong quality and will last for years. "Just knowing that there is nothing on the high street that looks remotely

the high street that looks remotely similar is fantastic. "My favourite thing to make is scarves and I am about to start making some for Christmas. Scarves aren't too difficult and you can use wild and wacky patterns for a bold effect.

for a bold effect.

"Cathy has made scarves with little pockets for some of her foster children and we have made lots of pretty things in the past for peoples birthdays.

"We have got a fantastic backing from our family and lots of people tell us how wonderful our greations are which is

wonderful our creations are which is lovely to hear."

Because of the high demand for their

products, the sisters are running out of wool and are desperately appealing for

Wool

A team of 23 volunteers helps them to knit and sell their products at the hospi-tal in aid of Midlands Air Ambulance and term and of indicates any annotance and the two are now also making a plea to the public to donate any unwanted craft items, such as beads, buttons, broken jewellery and unwanted gifts.

"We always need wool and unwanted items so if any members of the public have any to give to us then we would be more than greatful." sexs Mrs Smart

more than grateful," says Mrs Smart.
"We are truly passionate about the
Midlands Air Ambulance Charity and Midlands Air Ambulance Charity and really enjoy knitting, so we thought selling our knitted goods was the perfect way to fundraise for the service.
"We support the Air Ambulance because it is a marvellous charity that

because it is a marvellous charity that receives no government funding and relies completely on public support.

"If people could help us to continue to support them by donating that would mean a lot to us."

Anyone wanting to donate wool or find out more about supporting the charity should visit www.midlandsairambulance.com or call 0800 840 2040.

THROUGH THE YEARS

LABOUR MP Renee Short held on to her Wolverhampton North-East seat by the skin of her teeth in the General Election. After two dramatic recounts Mrs Short saw her majority of more than 6,000 slashed to just 214.

CHARLIE, the beer-swilling parrot, was feeling blue after his owner called time on his use of foul language. Licensee Jim Willetts vowed to clean up Charlie's bawdy banter after customers complained at The Swan in Amblecote.

PUPILS from Uplands Junior School in Finchfield were left upset after their visit to the House of Commons was called off due to the General Election. But they cheered up when the Queen invited them to see the State opening of Parliament procession from the grounds of Buckingham Palace.

1993...

A FLOWER arranger from Wordsley won a top international award for her traditional arrangement of fresh flowers. Elaine Williams came first in her class at the World Association of Flower Arrangers championships in Canada.

WALSALL swimmer Nick Gillingham produced his fastest ever 100m backstroke swim at the European trials in Sheffield. It was his first competitive race since winning the 200m bronze medal at the Barcelona Olympics.

POOR weather failed to dampen the enthusiasm of competitors at a Penkridge school's It's A Knockout-style tournament. Pupils at Penkridge Middle School rissed more than £500 for school funds after taking on obstacles such as the Killer Hill water slide.

2003...

A WOLVERHAMPTON grand-father was preparing to fly to Puerto Rico for a world champi-onship after smashing a British sprinting record at the age of 75. Alan Meddings, of Tettenhall, sliced a full second off the previ-ous over-75s world record for the ous over-75s world record for the 100m at the British Championships in Derby.

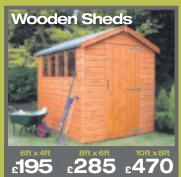
MORE than 1 000 of Wolver MORE than 1,000 of wolver-hampton's 27,000 street lights were replaced over a 12-month period. The move came as part of a renewal programme to help reduce residents' fear of crime.

WOLVES chairman Sir Jack Hayward celebrated his 80th birthday at a family reunion, but said his best present was the club's promotion to the Premier League. Sir Jack said he still would not believe his team were in the top flight until he got to see the fixture list.

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Let's have our own leisure cen

I HAVE written before on the demolition of Coseley Baths in 2009, and the money that has been spent on Stourbridge's Leisure Centre.

Now it seems Stourbridge is in for another windfall of two and a half million pounds from the lottery to be charged for amenities it goes against the grain million pounds from the lottery to be charged for amenities that we are not spent on Mary Stevens Park, yet only receiving.

Zam was needed to repair the well-used Coseley baths. Now all we have in Coseley is a derelict piece of land where it once stood.

Don't get me wrong, I'm all in favour of preserving our parks, historic built of preserving our parks, historic built on the play football there, but when the vast amounts of money, even if it is

Parking changes threaten traders

IN your coverage of the disabled parking issue in Stourbridge you failed to mention the clandestine nature of the operation, carried out overnight without consultation.

The whole of Drury Lane has been given over to disabled parking, leaving no normal parking there.
It is totally unsuitable for

It is totally unsuitable for It is totally unsuitable for disabled parking, being away from the shops and on a slope, treacherous in winter. As to shops having to compromise, I have been in retail for 50 years and know that the loss of 10 parking spaces can turn a profitable business into a basket case in not time.

business into a basket case in no time.

Needless to say Drury Lane parking spaces are now empty all day while the local shops suffer a loss of trade. Another nail in the Stourbridge coffin before Tesco bangs the lid down.

JETENNENT

Eggington Read

Eggington Road Wollaston

Famous names who appeared

IN a conversation with my sister-in-law this weekend

at theatre

she told me you were receiving letters against demolishing Dudley Hippodrome.

As an ex-Midlander I would like to add my voice to that as in my courting days I spent many happy hours there, seeing lots of names that went on to become very

that went on to become very famous.

My late husband who was studying at Birmingham University often recounted the tale of meeting Stan Laurel on a bus (it was the 125 service) going from Dudley to Birmingham Hippodrome where they, Laurel & Hardy, were due to appear. I would love to think, when visiting the area that I could go to the theatre there again. I also have many good memories of the Express & Star which we had every evening.

evening.
NORMA HYDE Cranwell Village Linconshire

LETTERS to the Editor

Halesowen Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

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E-MAIL

Politicians are to blame for atrocities

NO-ONE in their right mind would condone the barbaric murder of Drummer Lee Rigby, and to describe his killers

as animals is an insult to every other species of animal.

Those Muslim community leaders who have unre-servedly condemned the murder deserve our praise and those who haven't deserve nothing but contempt and con-

All that said, the ranting words of one of the alleged killers should not be ignored.

The danger is they will be, by politicians as they continue

to try to justify our interference in other countries' internal affairs, and as they stay in denial of their part in the deaths of victims of radicalised Islamists and, of course, the continued pointless waste of our troops' lives in Afghanistan.

The killing of Lee Rigby will achieve nothing. What it has

done is left yet another innocent family grieving and given white extremists an excuse to attack the majority of decent Muslims, along with the radical minority, when they ought to be verbally attacking the real culprits in Parliament. RASARGEANT

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NEWS

Government On cress of a wave pledge over privatising fire servi

tised, a government minister has pledged. The promise came in response to a call for reassurance from a Black Country MP during a debate in Parliament

a debate in Parliament
Adrian Bailey, Labour MP
for West Bromwich West,
said people had been
alarmed by fire service minister Brandon Lewis' letter
to a regulatory committee
saying that fire and rescue
authorities should be able to
contract out 'some or all' of
their services.

Mr Bailey said: "The fact

Mr Bailey said: "The fact is that, as part of his drive to make further savings, he wants to remove, as he said in his letter, the legal obstacles to the privatisation of the emergency fire services.

the emergency fire services.

"Given that West Midlands Fire Service is already two years into a programme to cut its budget by nearly a quarter, and has lost nearly 10 per cent of its firefighters, my constituents will regard with alarm." Mr Bailey was then cut off by Speaker John Bercow who pressed him to ask a question.

Mr Bailey continued:

säfe

by Daniel Wainwright

"Will the minister assure my constituents that these moves will not result in a privatised, non-publicly accountable emergency fire

service?"

Mr Lewis replied: "I have made clear on more than one occasion that we will not privatise the fire service, notwithstanding the scaremongering of members of his party.

"He should also note, if he is not already aware of it.

ms party.

"He should also note, if he is not already aware of it, that West Midlands fire service is currently advertising for firefighters."

In his letter Mr Lewis said: "Fire and rescue authorities should be able to adopt alternative models for the delivery, under contract, for some or all of their services. Certain provisions in existing legislation preclude some services from being delivered by alternative providers."



Lydia England shows her skills with watercress

Lydia England shows her skills with watercress
A WEST Midlands student has cooked her way to the top in a national competition at a festival celebrating the quintessential British delicacy – watercress.
Lydia England took to the stage at the annual Watercress Festival in Alresford, Hampshire, for her first-ever live recipe demonstration after gaining the title of the Great British Watercress Cook Off Champion 2013.
Fighting off stiff competition from chefs, cookery teachers and amateur cooks, 21-year-old Lydia, from Kidderminster, impressed the panel of judges with her watercress and goat's cheese tart with walnut pastry.
Not only did the dish have to taste fantastic, but Lydia had to prove she had enough showmanship to keep the crowds at the Watercress Festival entertained.
She managed both and earned £2,000 and a trophy. Lydia's interest in watercress saysarked when watercress farmer Dr Steve Rothwell visited the University of Reading, where she is a student.
He spoke about its health properties and explained how two pioneering university studies had revealed watercress was an important element in the fight regainst cancer.
Run by British watercress farmers, the Great British Watercress Cook Off aims to encourage the nation to use the superfood' more.

'superfood' more.

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Scrapped forces merger plans 'should be revived'

PLANS, which were scrapped earlier this year, for two West Midland police forces to share services should be revived in the wake of the terrorist attack in Woolwich, claims a police chief.

Chief.

West Midlands and Staffordshire police were looking at combining their armed response teams, dog support and training as well as tactical planning and road policing.

However, Staffordshire backed out of the plans in March saying it was not the 'right thing' for the county.

Now, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner Bob Jones said be boned

Now, west minands rollee and crime Commissioner Bob Jones said he hoped the plans would still go ahead – and insisted they would help the response to a major incident like the attack on Drummer Lee Rigby last month.

Response

The proposals were first mooted back in 2011 in a move which, it was hoped, would save the forces £650,000 a year. But it was also feared the changes

could mean increased response times to incidents and that staff may resist the

incidents and that staff may resist the proposals.

Mr Jones said: "A collaboration between the forces would mean we would be in a better position to respond to the big incidents like Woolwich.

Ho addd, "Wo meatill better at the like and the same and the same and the same are the same and the same are the same are

big incidents like Woolwich.
He added: "We are still looking at this
but Staffordshire had reservations about
certain elements. However, his counterpart in Staffordshire said any joint
working would only go ahead if it would

working would only go almead it it would benefit people in the area. Staffordshire Police and Crime Com-missioner Matthew Ellis said, a review found the operational case is not strong enough to support these original collabo-ration proposals."

Made in the Black Country



The power station silo which was built at Pressvess, in Kingswinford

DUDLEY workmanship will be keeping a power station going after a massive silo was dispatched from a manufacturing plant.

manufacturing plant.

The silo, which is 47ft long, 14ft wide and weighs 10 tons, is for Drax Power Station near Selby, Yorkshire.

It was made by Kingswinford stainless steel fabricators Pressvess and carefully loaded on to a specialist lorry before travelling through the town at slow speed at the start of an eight hour journey.

Pressvess works manager Lee Deakin said at its destination the silo would beinstalled by their team from the Stallings Lane company. He said: "This is part of a large contract, we're a well-established company and we're

growing quite well. Everything went without a problem.

Pressvess was commissioned to design, build and install the lime dosing silo by Halesowen air filtration specialists Lodge Cotterell.

It will be fully installed at Drax, a large coal-fired power station, this week. It is among recent power station projects the company is doing with Lodge Cotterell.

Pressvess marketing manager Tom Mason said: "Visually this silo is very impressive due to the sheer scale.

"It is 14.2m long and nearly 4m in diameter with plenty of specialist safety equipment attached to it."

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The Bridge, Walsall, showing the original 18th century George Hotel, left. Nothing survives of this scene

The Grand Theatre, corner of Park Street and Station Street, circa1896. Superdrug stands on the spot today



Walsall District General – Sister Dora – Hospital, Wednesbury Road, around 1896. It was demolished for modern apartments



Walsall Science and Art Institute, Bradford Place, circa 1896. The building is now being used as offices



The Old Woolpack, a Tudor pub in Walsall High Street, demolished in 1892, replaced by shops

Peeking into past with town's picture album

Centre there are thou-sands of local photographs, from the ear 1860s to the present day.

1860s to the present day.

Such collections are obviously the first place to look for historic images. But there is another rich source of photographs - old books.

From the late Victorian era, when photography was hugely popular, there was a fashion for books to be published focusing on towns, counties, or local worthies and businesses.

Many included photos, some of a

and businesses.
Many included photos, some of a very high standard, given the limitations on print quality at the time. Books like town guides were a matter of civic pride, and these as wen as others such as trade directories, albums promoting local places and businesses, and yet more commemorating events, are all worth looking at for that rare historic picture. well as others such as trade directo-

One particularly interesting book is The Walsall Album, pub-lished by William Henry Robinson in 1898. It showcases buildings which were already historic in Victorian times. Many have long since disappeared, or have changed appearance.

Extraordinary

Extraordinary

Thanks to Mr Robinson, a prominent local newspaper editor, printer, publisher, author, astronomer and leading light of the Walsall Literary Institute, some extraordinary images of Walsall, Bloxwich, Rushall and Great Barrhave been preserved.

These are through photographs commissioned by him, a few of Walsall, are reproduced here.

The Walsall Album also offers a fascinating slice of industrial and business life in the town in the

many full-page adverts. While Walsall is famous for its saddlery trade, it becomes obvious, when reading this book and others, that it was just one of many in the 'Town of a Hundred Trades'.

Remarkable books such as this and South Staffordshire Illustrated (c1899). Walsall Past and Present (1905), the Walsall Red Books (1872-1939), and more, offer a fascinating insight into how the Victorians saw themselves as well as revealing many lost townscapes. All are waiting to be rediscover among the thousands of historic volumes preserved in the Local

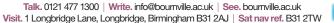


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Laura's flower power



Laura Leong who has won a gold at the famous Chelsea Flower Show

A DUDLEY florist has achieved a life goal after winning her first gold medal and a top accolade with her exhibit at this recent Chelsea Flower Show.

Laura Leong, aged 41, from Kingswinford, has spent almost a 25 years honing her craft to become a floral designer, lecturer and demon-strator. She struck gold with her

third exhibit at the event. It led to her being named the show's florist of the year, beating off competition from contestants across the UK. Her design incorporated a 3D whirlpool effect using succulents and cream-coloured orchids.

"To receive this is a realisation of a dream," said Mrs Leong. "It was so nerve-wracking."

change light bulbs and repair fix-tures and fittings at magistrates and crown courts, prompting con-

tures and fittings at magistrates' and crown courts, prompting concerns safety will be compromised.

Staff who check bags, confiscate weapons and respond to trouble in court, are being trained to upkeep the buildings in a bid to save costs. But the role merger has been slammed by the Public and Commercial Services union who say the safety of victims, witnesses and the public could be put at risk. Global security giant G4S, which manages 28 courts across the West Midlands, is behind the plans. Around 40 staff in the region could be affected.

The company has a £300 million government contract to provide security, cleaning and maintenance for five years at 340 Ministry of Justice sites. Currently, contractors are called in for maintenance works.

Andrew Lloyd, Midlands regional secretary of the PCS union, said: "My initial response would be that this will of course compromies security, "These people play a vital role in keeping order in our courts and for them to effectively be asked to be do a caretaker's job on top of their principal duties is outrageous. G4S spokesman Michael Baker said staff would do their extra jobs during quieter periods. He said: "Akey part of our successful bid to manage security and facilities at courts for the Ministry of Justice was to give additional training to some security staff so they are also able to provide some general maintenance tasks."

Owners of bikes sought

POLICE are searching for the owners of two mountain bikes recovered in Kidderminster. One mountain bike is a golden orange and the other was a red, purple and black Diamond Back mountain bike. It had two Tioga mountain bike wheels and tyres. Any owner who has had a bike stolen, can contact 101, quoting incident 111-s-010613.



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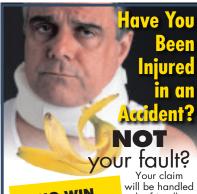
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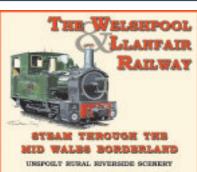
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College is ranked with the best by inspectors

DUDLEY College has been named in the top 10 per cent in England by Ofsted inspectors who heaped praise on its £30 million Learning Quarter scheme.

The scheme provides 'outstanding' accommodation and resources for students,

accommodation and resources for students, inspectors said.

The Learning Quarter includes the Dudley Evolve vocational campus, which opened last September on the site of the former fire station in Tower Street.

A £6m manufacturing and engineering the station of the former fire station in Tower Street.

A £6m manufacturing and engineering complex – called Dudley Advance – is also planned for a site off Priory Road.
Principal Lowell Williams said the report highlighted the college's 'positive impact' on the town and the community.
The Ofsted report ranked all areas of the college as 'good' or better, noting the college's many outstanding features. Inspectors particularly praised the college for its 'very high' success rates, 'outstanding' accommodation and resources across the new quarter. The college's visual arts the new quarter. The college's visual arts provision area was also said to be 'outstand-

provision area was also said to be outstanding.

Mr Williams said: "We have ambitious plans for Dudley College over the next decade and now have a strong foundation.

"With every area graded good or better we are now firmly ranked in the top 10 per cent of colleges in England. It's fantastic that the report repeatedly refers to the college as 'outstanding', 'excellent', 'impressive' and 'effective'. These comments are testimony to the exceptional hard work of all of our staff, students and governors."

Choir to chart ages of man

A CHOIR is to perform a work called The Ages Of Man in Wolverhampton. The Wombourne and District Choral Society will sing a journey of the various stages of life. The concert is on July 13 at Beckmin-ster Methodist Church, Birches Barn Road, Penn, at 7.30pm. Entry is £8, under-166 free.

A steaming good rally



Brian Harris, of Ellesmere, with his Garrett roller, dog Jasper, Robert Bate, of Wolverhampton, and Tom Sanders

THOUSANDS of families turned out to enjoy the annual Steam and Vintage Rally in the Black Country. This year's event had more exhibits than ever, despite the fact bosses scrapped the popular parade as part of a bid to save costs.

as part of a bid to save costs.

An array of traction engines and motorcycles were on show along with vintage organs, stationary steam engines and working equipment from the past, as well as vintage and modern day funfairs, trade stalls and a craft marquee.

Vintage buses were also doing trips around West Park, Wolverhampton for youngsters to enjoy.

Among the residents to attend

Among the residents to attend was Liz Blundell, of Paget Road,

Wolverhampton, who went along with her sons Thomas, aged two, and James, aged six.

She said: 'ft is a great family day out. The engines have been brilliant to look at and the boys even got to sit in a fire engine which they enjoyed. They also liked the stalls and the tombolas as well as the rides. The weather has been brilliant as well."

Also in attendance was Dan Griffin, of Blackheath, who took along his three and a half gauge Bri-tannia built by his grandad in 1954.

The 39-year-old said: "We have had a lot of interest. When people found out how old it was they were quite impressed.'







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Booming company scoops a

A COMPANY in Rowley Regis company that has risen from the ashes of a failing firm has been hon-oured with an award from the region's best-selling newspaper. Cube Precision Engineer-ing has won Young Business of the Year at the annual Express and Star business awards after launching four years ago.

years ago.
Paying tribute to the company in Cakemore Road,

company in Cakemore Road, the award judges said: "Cube Precision Engineering was started four years ago when a previous business went into liquidation. "The new team has seen their workforce grow in that period from four to 38, and their sales have increased to over £2 million with the strong likelihood of healthier profits in the months to come."

come." Cube, which designs and manufactures press tools, quadrupled its exports from 2011 and a year later was making £3.5 million revenue mainly from exports to cus-tomers such as Audi, BMW

Crafty library

THE story of the ugly duck-ling is being brought to life at Blackheath Library, High Street. Starting on June 22, children will be able to make their own ugly ducklings at the library's monthly crafts club, 1.40-2.30pm. For more information telephone 0121 559 1884.

Village celebrating £27,000 top award A company in Rowley facelift for war memorial

gregation are celebrating after securing the funding to revamp their war memorial.

FOCUS ON ROWLEY REGIS & BLACKHEATH

their war memorial.

The memorial to those who fought during the First World War is based at St Giles Church, and will undergo a £27,000 revamp in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The stone memorial was erected at the church in 1920, and is engraved with the names of 98 men from Rowley Village who died during the Great War.

The names on the memorial which stands at the junction of Hanover Road and Church Road have worn away and some are now unreadable. The restoration will see the memorial cleaned up, and placed on a new

unreagable. The restoration will see the memorial cleaned up, and placed on a new granite plinth.

The names of the 98 fallen will then be engraved on the granite to ensure they remain clear and readable for years.

Consultation

Concern about the memorial was raised at a local Rowley Regis forum and it was taken up by lead member Councillor Barbara Price. She has now gained funding for restoration to take

place.
A working group consisting of church wardens, Sandwell Council representatives and the church's vicar the Rev Ian Shelton was set up, and now plans are well underway for it to be fully restored.

Specialist stonemasons and restorers will be brought in to do the work.
Children from nearby St Michaels C of E School took part in the consultation process.

School took part in the consultation process and are planning a specific piece of work for the project.

the project.

Mr Shelton said: "In a year when the armed forces are constantly in the news and particularly after the recent events in Woolwich, it is important to remember those who have given their lives. We are delighted that Sandwell Council has chosen this project to invest in."

New library unveiled after £200k project



Outside the new building are, front, Councillor Mahboob Hussain and Sandwell Mayor Councillor Linda Horton, with, left to right, Jennifer Shaw and Nicola Morris with Mark Evans project manager and Barry Clark the chief librarian

A NEW library that houses Sandwell's library service. The new library will provide special services has opened in Rowley Regis following a £200,000 refurbishment. The converted former day centre in Harvest Road replaces the special library services originally located in Crosswell library with the mayor Council's deputy leader Council Council's deputy leader Council Counci

Nursery's open day is hailed a success

A NURSERY in Rowley Regis celebrated its first fun day with a visit from the Deputy Mayor of Sandwell. Rowley Village Nursery in Carlyle Road held the fun

Carlyle Road held the fun day with games, raffles, a bouncy castle and barbecue, as well as a special visit from Councillor Barbara Price and her husband Councillor Bob Price.

The Deputy Mayor said: "It was a pleasure to be invited and to support our local nursery, and it is also nice to see that one of the old buildings in the area is being used for the benefit of the community.

"The grounds of the

community.

"The grounds of the nursery are wonderful for the children to run around and explore safely and securely."

Pat Banner, nursery manager, added: "It was fantastic to be able to welcome so many families to this event

event.
"We were delighted to see children and parents visit-ing and enjoying the facili-ties we offer here."

Choir invite

WANNABEE singers are invted to join a choir at St. Paul's Church, Long Lane, Blackheath, on June 29. Rehearsals will be 10am. Rehearsals will be 10am-lpm, and a performance will tale place at 7pm. Songs from Phantom of the Opera, West Side Story, Carousel and The Sound of Music will be included in the free event.

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Former soldier hanged himself when he 'lost purpose' after he was made redundant and then was turned down as a volunteer for the London Olympics. Anthony Sampays's body was found by a brother lost his purpose in life. Anthony Sampays's body was found by a brother lost his purpose in life.

Anthony Sampays sody was found by a prother iost his purpose in life.

policeman after council workers called to discuss his rent arrears on October 16, an inquest heard.

The council asked police for help when Croner Robin Balmain recorded a verdict they could not get an answer at 55-year-old that the former soldier had hanged himself.

Widow of crash victim tells of her heartbreak

motorcyclist who died after crashing into a lamp-post on a busy dual carriage-way has spoken of

her heartbreak.
Nick Foster, from Tipton, was killed after coming off his bike in Manor Way, Halesowen, at 9.15pm last Friday. The 32-year-old had only

owned the machine a few months and was on the way back from Bridgnorth with a

His wife Claire Foster said: "He was my best friend — I had known him so long. I feel numb."

Worried

The crash happened outside the Sandvik plant heading towards junction three of the M5 for Halesowen

Mrs Foster, also 32, said her husband left their home in Cotterills Road at about 7pm and she started getting worried at about 9.30pm. "I called him six or seven

times - he had a headset so he could speak while riding -but he did not answer." she



Crash victim Nick Foster

Crash victim Nick Foster said. "Then, at about 10.20pm, the dog got up as though someone was here. I thought it was Nick coming home, but it was the police. "The officer said there had been an accident and Nick had been killed. I did not believe him at first."

The couple had known each other more than 20 years and attended Churchfields High School in West Bromwich together.

Bromwich together.

Mrs Foster said her
husband bought the bike

about four months ago.

"It was his new hobby."

wanted one. A lot of his friends had them. He used to drive it to work and back, he had been on road trips to Wales."

Wales."
Mr Foster was the oldest of three brothers. He had started a new job as a HGV driver for Allied Bakeries in West Bromwich six weeks

ago.

Before that he was doing agency work. The couple had lived in Cotterills Road since 2004. They had no children. "He was a genuinely good man," Mrs Foster said. "He

man, Mrs roser said. He enjoyed being on his bike. His cousin said he used to grin like a Cheshire cat when he was on it.

Closed

"He was really jokey and cheeky. He would push things but know when to stop. He would get on with anyone"

anyone."
The road was closed while The road was closed while collision investigation experts examined the scene and it reopened in the early hours of Saturday. Anyone with information about the crash should call police on

Watercolours to | Call for ban on booze ads to

A CHURCH in Cradley aims to become an arts hub' and has already started organis-

'arts hub' church

go on show at

arts hub' and has already started organising exhibitions.

Artist and former Halesowen College lecturer Philip Adams is running watercolour workshops from his Cradley Heath home and the results will be displayed at St Peter's Church, Cradley.

The Wednesday sessions are at 2-4pm at 36, Beauty Bank, Old Hill, Philip will be going into schools in Cradley to get children, parents and carers creating art together.

The resulting art will be exhibited at St Peter's on October 14 and 15. Anyone interested in joining Philip's workshops should call him on 01384 562472. The church is also hosting an art show on July 20.

protect young

A CHARITY has called for a complete ban on alcohol advertising at music and sports events to protect children and young people. Alcohol Concern claims the current regulatory system is failing young people, citing high levels of alcohol brand recognition and examples of inappropriate advertising. It is recommending new rules that restrict examples of mappropriate advertising. It is recommending new rules that restrict adverts to referring only to the characteristics of the product, such as strength, origin, composition and means of production, and a ban on alcohol advertising in the trailers of films shown in cinemas with less than an 18 certificate.

The charity says regulation should be statutory and independent of the alcohol and advertising industries.

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High rents 'hit growth'

SKY-high rents and a lack of affordable homes are slowing the region's businesses, claim West Midlands Employers in

a new survey.
The National Housing Fed-The National Housing Federation and ComRes carried out research among some of the region's top businesses. They found 90 per cent of employers say the lack of affordable housing is stalling economic growth, with a further 81 per cent warning it would affect their ability to

would affect their ability to attract and keep workers. Elizabeth Humphreys, of the National Housing Feder-ation said: "If things don't change, employers will simply move."

Hospital boosts staff

be taken on at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton in a £1million drive to improve patient care.

Many of the new jobs will be for nurses, some of whom will be asked to take their post in the emergency serv-ices departments where the under pressure A&E has been struggling to

cope. Attendance rates at the department have soared to record levels and on April 17 it saw the most patients in its history come through the doors – 365

Health chiefs are also preparing to take on extra services if a £70 million

downgrade of Stafford and Cannock Hospitals goes ahead.

The hospital said it is looking to take on regular staff nurses to allow the ward sisters and charge nurses to spend more time supervising the standards of care provided to patients.

It is hoped it will also free up the ward sisters and charge nurses to work with staff, including student nurses, and undertake audits and quality checks.

checks.

Bosses say it's hoped the new workers will be in place by the end of next month.

Chief Nurse Chervl Etches said:

"These changes are very welcome and will enable charge nurses and ward sisters to spend more time with patients and staff to make sure the

that patients and relatives are satisfied with their experience of care at the hos-

Money for the appointments has come from government funding for projects which have a positive impact on care and people's experience at hos-

The hospital is looking to save £21m this financial year but has pledged not to compromise on patient safety.

More than £6m of savings still have

to be identified in this year's cuts. which will come from a wide range of departments across the Royal Wolver-hampton Hospitals NHS Trust. Last year, the trust fell short of the £15m it hoped to save, with £6.5m cuts carried over into the 2013-14 budget.

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Theatre group taking a wry look at restaurants

A THEATRE group in Stourbridge is staging an original play written by one of its members for its forthcoming show. A Comedy Theatre Group has been busy

in rehearsals for the performances which take place on June 14 and 15. The play, entitled Eating Out – A Night at the Palace, takes a wry look at life in a

high street restaurant. Group leader Phill Liptrot said the company formed in 2010 with the aim of introducing people to live theatre and invited people to have a go at learning new skills.

This latest work is a new play written by Pete Williams, one of the founder members of the group.

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"This is Pete's first attempt at writing a full play and he has come up with some excellent characters and a manic storyline for the actors to enjoy," said Mr Liptrot.

"The group is always on the lookout for "The group is always on the lookout for new actors to be involved in future produc-tions, and would also like to encourage local writers to use the group as a way of getting their scripts performed in public." The play will take place at Gig Mill Methodist Church, in Glebe Lane, Norton, Stourbridge, with curtain up at 7.30pm. Tickets are £4 in advance or £5 on the

Tickets are £4 in advance or £5 on the

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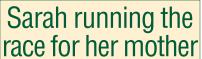
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Kathryn Evans, Sarah Glynn, Fiona Ganner and Jill Spragg getting ready for their Race For Life challenge

A MOTHER of two from South Staffordshire has gone to great lengths to encourage more women to enter the

Race For Life.

Sarah Glynn, a teaching assistant from Wheaton
Aston, is determined to make a difference after losing
her mother to cancer in January – and has had the
message "Beat it, cancer' painted on her body to capture
the fighting spirit of this year's event.
She has rallied a team of 26 friends and family to join
her in memory of her mother Kathryn Cowling. Thousands of yoursen have entered the Shewest assemed the

sands of women have entered the 5k events around the

sands of women have entered the 5k events around the region, but organisers need more.

The 38-year-old said: "Mum was unbelievably strong and determined to be that one person who would beat cancer. She had a much bigger challenge on her hands so to take part in Race for Life is nothing.

'Now I want to be part of the huge, united force that

is determined to beat cancer. But we can't do it alone." Her mother, who lived near Bilbrook, died on January 10 – just six months after she was told she had secondary

"I'd prepared myself for the news it might be cancer but not for the fact it was going to be terminal. You feel so helpless.

Mrs Glynn and her team will join more than 2,000 at Race for Life in Wolverhampton's West Park on June 19. The event will be especially poignant as the next day would have been her mother's 65th birthday. She will be

cheered on by her father Terry, husband Paul and sons Jake, 15 and Thomas, 12.

Car sales enjoy bumper quarter

NEW car sales soared to their highest May level for six years on the back of bumper private purchases.

The big winners included Hyundai, Nissan, SEAT and Suzuki, while the three largest car companies – Ford Vauxhall and Volkswagen, all managed respectable sales hikes. But there was a surprise drop in sales at West Midlandsbased Land Rover, down by just 34 to 3,826. However, Land Rover sales so far this financial year are up 16 per cent, and sister company Jaguar enjoyed a, 11.8 per cent hike in its sales figures. sales figures.

Aston Martin based in Warwickshire, and currently cele

Aston Martin based in Warwickshire, and currently celebrating its centenary year, saw a 40 per cent spike in demand, selling 76 of its luxury sports cars in May.

But Longbridge-based MG only sold 13 of its cars, down 73 per cent on last May.

In total there were 180,111 new car registrations in May, an 11 per cent increase on the May 2012 total, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) said.

Of the May 2013 total, more than 84,000 was made up of private sales, 20.9 per cent up on May last year and above pre-recession levels.

The latest figures took total new registrations for the year so far to 948,666 a 9.3 per cent rise on the January to May

so far to 948,666, a 9.3 per cent rise on the January to May

Severn Valley volunteers given royal recognition

tirelessly to keep the Severn Valley Railway on track have had their outstanding achievement recognised by

the Queen.

A group of 1,300 volunteers carry out a tasks from rebuilding bridges

to restoring locomotives.

Railway bosses say without their 'passion, commitment and enthusiasm' the heritage line between Kidderminster and Bridgnorth could

the minister and Strigginorii cound not continue to operate.

The team has now been given The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service to coincide with the 60th anniversary of her Coronation.

In celebration of the achievement,

In celebration of the acinevenient, four long-standing volunteers from the Severn Valley Railway – Hugh McQuade, Columb Howell, Gary Williams and Martin White – were invited to sample some Royal hospitality at The Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace

Revealed

The four rubbed shoulders with the Queen, Princess Eugenie and the Princess Royal, who revealed she is a steam enthusiast after once being

steam enthusiast after once being invited to drive a steam train.

A commemorative piece of crystal and certificate signed by the Queen will shortly be presented to the railway by the Lord Lieutenant of Worcestershire and will be displayed in pride of place.

Mr Howell, who was among the Preservation Group which relaunched the railway in 1965 and whose main role is now volunteer

whose main role is now volunteer driver, described the award as a great honour.

Mario's mighty motor on show



From left are Ricky Brown, Steve Bishop, Terry Aston and Matt Bishop with the jet turbine Mario cart and a model Red Arrows Hawk aircraft

WHAT is claimed to be the world's first

WHAT is claimed to be the world's first jet powered racing cart will be one of the main attractions at this year's International Model Air Show at Weston Park. Father and son team Steven and Matthew Bishop, have put a scaleddown jet turbine, similar to that of a Boeing 747, in a model car and painted it in the style of the popular game hero Mario. Steven, aged 51, and his 24-year-old son believe the car has a top speed of around 180 miles per hour. Steven said: "We've done this for the children, but now we've got bookings for it from all

over the world. We've always built model jets but it's been a dream of mine to put a jet engine in a vehicle."

Mr Bishop got the opportunity to fulfil his dream last year when company 27Three displayed their model cars at the air show.

He said: "It looks so comical, it's a small car with only enough room for one person but it's so noisy. It's also fast. We think it is the world's first." The pair both belong to the Wrekin Model Flying Club. It will be officially displayed at the model air show from June 14 to 16.

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE THURSDAY, JUNE 13 2013 Page 17 Did You Sleep Alright Last Night? If not, buying a New Bed from Will be the BEST thing you have done for a good nights sleep. GUARANTEED BEST PRICES AND OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE! Now £229 **King Size** Just £259 to £1,200 Supporters of **Mary Stevens Hospice** OPEN Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm TO TAKE AWAY Sat 9am-5.30pm Sun 11am-4.30pm

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London protest against hunger

MORE than 100 campaigners from the West Midlands including people from Hale-sowen and Stourbridge joined a big public rally at London's Hyde Park on Sat-urday, to protest against

London's Hyde Park on Sat-urday, to protest against hunger.
Katy Cook, 27, from Cradley Heath, was among people from the West Mid-lands who travelled to London as part of the Enough Pood For Everyone IF campaign.
The cempaign is calling

IF campaign.
The campaign is calling for action by the leaders of the eight richest countries (G8) to eliminate hunger. Katy, from Stourbridge, said: "One in eight people go to bed hungry every night. Every 15 seconds a child dies of hunger. I want Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron and the G8 to take action to end hunger by action to end hunger by investing in nutrition, end tax dodging, and to stop land grabs that use land for biofuels, not food.

"I want to be part of the generation to help end hunger."

Weight for it

THE annual Paperweight
Day at Kingswinford's
Broadfield House Glass
Museum on Sunday, will
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and dealers selling their
wares. The event is 10am to

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Landmark Co-op store gets £600,000 revamp

gateway into Dudley town centre will be returned to its former glory as part of a £600,000 revamp.

Work to restore the old Co-op department store on Dudley High Street to its 1930s origi-

store on buttley high street of its 1500s origi-nal appearance has got under way.
Original tiles and coping stones will be cleaned and repaired while the metal-framed windows will be restored.
Contractors will also bring back the original fascias, currently obscured behind modern

issues, currently obscured benind modern signs, to reinstate the historic shop front.

The building, which dates back to 1939, was designed by Dudley-based architects, Webb and Gray and was built by Dudley contractor, Mark Round and Sons.

It was originally faced in cream and blue tiles, made by the Stourbridge Glazed Brick

Merger

The building was opened as the Co-opera-tive's central department store in 1939, and it closed as a Co-op in 1983 following a merger between the Dudley and Birmingham Soci-

Work on the building is expected to be com-pleted in the autumn and Dudley's regenera-tion chief Councillor Judy Foster said: "The tion ther Contention Judy roster state: The regeneration of Dudley town centre has accel-erated and this project is another exciting step forward. The work will ensure the gateway into the town at the top of the High Street next to Top Church is significantly improved. "This sensitive restoration scheme is part of

"This sensitive restoration scheme is part of improving the buildings and the environment for borough residents and visitors."

The six-month project is being carried out through Dudley Council's Townscape Heritage Initiative.



Councillor Judy Foster with, left, Bob Blunt of Thomas Blunt Partnership which owns the building, Roy Pugh, of Jennings Homer & Lynch architects, Matt Wood from Speller Metcalfe contractors and Emma Pardoe, of Dudley's Townscape Heritage

Young to help with fighting

commissioners could be appointed to represent areas of the West Midlands.

of the West Midlands.
West Midlands Police and
Crime Commissioner Bob
Jones has ruled out the idea
of a single young person
taking the role - saying it is
'too big a job'. But he said a
board of youth commissioners could be appointed.
The idea came from a
summit of more than 200
young people organised by

summit of more than 200 young people organised by Mr Jones. He said he felt there would be too much pressure on one young person representing the whole West Midlands.

The posts, likely to be unpaid, would be filled through interviews.

Mr Jones said: "We are consulting on having one or

Mr Johns said: We are consulting on having one or two from each area very similar to way youth MPs work. They would come together periodically as a youth and crime commission for the West Midlands."

MP backs charity

STOURBRIDGE MP Margot James is backing a Margot James is backing a campaign to raise awareness of the early signs of avoidable sight loss. The campaign is run by the Royal National Institute of Blind People. It aims to help people spot the signs of agerelated macular degeneration which is the biogest tion which is the biggest



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with four Blue Flags, more than 200 hotels and guesthouses, quality restaurants and all-year round entertainment, the south coast town of Bournemouth sure has a lot going for it.

going for it.

The resort attracts nearly five million visitors each year, its two historic piers, Bournemouth and Boscombe, both have Quality Coast awards and there's even a link to The Beatles. The cover for the Fab Four's With The Beatles album was taken at the Palace Court Hotel, now the Premier Inn, in 1963.

Festival

Lord of The Rings author JRR Tolkien, stationed on Cannock Chase during the First World War, loved the town so much that he holidayed there every year and was living in every year and was living in Bournemouth at the time of death in

1973.

The biggest free festival of its kind, the Bournemouth Festival is staged annually. Visitors can also get airborne with the famous Bournemouth Balloon, giving them a panoramic view for 20 miles around from 500 feet high. Bournemouth International Airport takes passengers to more than 50 destinations.

Bournemouth apparently

tinations. Bournemouth apparently averages more sunshine than anywhere else in the country, and my family and I certainly found a great time to visit as the sun beat down, offering a superb taste of what the town has to offer. The beach was packed, and is only a stone's





An interior shot of the Westbeech, the town's premier seafood restaurant

throw away from the main town. Yards away are the Oceanarium, which houses a variety of sea creatures. Just a few strides from there is the town's most popular seafood restaurant the Westbeech, where we enjoyed both a terrific lunch as well as stunning

terrific lunch as well as stunning coastal views.

We stayed at the Norfolk Royale in the heart of the town. Boasting 95 en suite rooms, it is the town's premier 4-Star hotel, where facilities include an indoor pool, steam room, sauna and beauty salon. Prices start at just £57 per person per night bed and breakfast.

We even found the time to visit the fas-We even found the time to visit the fascinating and historic Russell-Cotes Museum and Art Gallery, dedicated to Sir Merton Russell-Cotes, the Wolverhampton-born former Mayor of Bournemouth, and where the interiors for Ken Russell's 1978 biopic Valentino were filmed.

Christchurch, Poole and Weymouth are all in easy reach, as is the New Forest, ideal for cycling, walking or pony riding. For more details about Bournemouth, contact the tourism information office on 01202 451750.

Mark Shipp

TRAVEL

Mark Shipp



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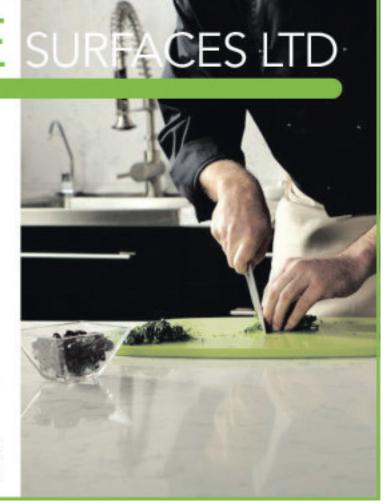
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CLUB NEWS

Parkash is named as club's new president

WOLVERHAMPTON SOROPTIMISTS

THE recent AGM saw Soroptimist International of Wolverhampton move towards its 76th year with the election of a new president Parkash Krishan. She received the badge of Insignia from outgoing president Gail Wedge.

In her inaugural speech, she spoke about the rights of all those, in particular women and children, who across the world are still less fortunate in having world are still less fortunate in having no voice, of how inequality still existed in the world and how Soroptimist International was important in helping to stop this and break down barriers, to increase understanding.

Her theme for the coming year would be 'Continuing Friendship and Opening Up Barriers'. Parkash intends to maintain and establish links with other organisations and to sup-

intends to maintain and establish links with other organisations and to supporting projects the club has in place. Her special project would be supporting local charity The Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre. There will be several social functions throughout her year commencing with a coffee morning, a barbecue and a strawberry tea in June and a House of Lords visit in mid July. Members of the club will also be taking part in the Race for Life on June 19.



Cyclist's fundraising bid

MYTIME OVER 50S

Francisco to New York'.

The ride raised money for Cancer Research, backed by Ed's Rotarian group. It took him a year to get fit enough as he had to gain about 30 lbs of weight, which would be

burned off during his ride. Throughout his journey he camped or stayed in motels. His first few nights were spent with American Rotar-ians in and around San Francisco.

rancisco. When in Indiana the route

was to take him over five road bridges, which were all

Closed for repair work.

Workmen got him over by crane and boats, instead of having to take a detour of more than 100 miles. Finally he reached New York, taking 58 days, cycling more than 3,000 miles at 60 miles a day.

Speaker gives talk on cheese

BLACKHEATH M TG

THE meeting on May 22 was opened by chairman Doreen Armstrong, who welcomed members, visitors and speaker for the day, Hazel Reynolds.

Mrs Reynolds talk, which are all best Spring has all the stall best Spring has a speaker for the stall best Spring has a least spring from the stall best Spring has a spring from the stall best Spring has a spring from the stall best Spring has a spring from the spring from the

was all about Swiss cheese, included some cooking, and it was decided she would

was an about Swiss Cheese, and it was decided she would speak and demonstrate before the guild business took place.

She brought samples, cooked a fondue and explained how the animals were kept high in the mountains during the summer months, where they fed entirely on the rich grass slopes and only came down when the winter arrived.

Everyone was delighted to be fed samples of cheese and fondue together with fresh bread. Beryl Hartley thanked Mrs Reynolds for a most interesting talk.

Monthly reports were then given by treasurer Beryl Hartley, outlings coordinator Brenda Ellesmore and press officer Iris Harris.

Three ladies were given prizes in the raffle.

Earlier in the month, members had visited the Halfpenny Green vineyards and were treated to a tour of the grape areas, saw the various craft buildings and then had a tasting session.

The next meeting will be on June 26 at the Moose Hall, Beeches Road at 10.30am. Speaker will be Ken Smith on the subject of Haden Hill, with slides.

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Man stole £1,000 from his dying father to pay debts

Walk raises £180,000



Around 5,000 people walked the route from Molineux Stadium includ-ing Free Radio's breakfast presenters Fresh and Cat children fulfil their dreams. Hope House will use the money to refurbish their pond.

Acorns Children's Hospice will use their slice of the fundraising for refurbishment projects.

Organisers say they are delighted with the amount raised and thanked the thousands who took part. The

MORE than £180,000 has been raised for good causes after 5,000 people turned out for a charity walk in the Black Country.

The 13-mile route started and finished at the Molineux Stadium and also took in Himley Hall.

The event raised £182,106 for local charities, Acorns Children's Hospice, Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital, Promise Dreams and Hope House Children's Hospice, Shropshire.

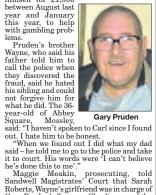
Hope House Unitaren's Inspire, Shropshire.

The money will help pay for a spe-cialist incubator at Dudley's Rus-sells Hall while Promise Dreams will use the cash to help seriously ill

dying father by stealing cheques and making them payable to himself while supposedly caring for him, a court heard.

Carl Pruden made his father Gary's final months unbearable after his crime was uncovered, his brother said. Carl Pruden was last week given a com-

Carl Pruden was last week given a community order for stealing the money from his father, who died aged 66 from lung cancer in February.
Pruden, aged 31 of Carnegie Road, Rowley Regis, pleaded guilty to fraud. He stole blank cheques and made payments to himself for £1,000 between August last year and January this year, to help with gambling problems.



Roberts, Wayne's girlfriend was in charge of Gary Pruden's finances. She discovered the theft.

theit. Magistrates sentenced Pruden to a community order for 12 months, during which he will be supervised and given assistance with his gambling problem. He was also ordered to do 100 hours of unpaid work, and must pay back the £1,000.

with the amount raised and thanked the thousands who took part. The event was set up by Free Radio. The radio station's breakfast pre-senters Fresh and Cat said: "This year the Free Radio Walk for Kids has really caught the imagination of our listeners and the people of the Black Country. It was great to see so many happy faces."

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What's On! Halesowen

REVIEW

Ghost The Musical Grand Theatre

IF there is anything likely to boost the atten-dance at pottery classes this is it! The smash-hit musical Ghost, direct from the West End, is simply out of this

End, is simply out of this world.

And although that memorable potter's wheel part of the film seemed to be passed over quickly the packed Grand Theatre was still held spellbound by the dazzling state-of-the-art staging and terrific effects.

Based on the Oscarwinning movie that captured the hearts of a generation in the 90s, Ghost is a timeless fantasy about the power of love.

about the power of love. Sam is trapped as a ghost between this world and the between this world and the next trying to communicate with girlfriend Molly through a phoney psychic in the hope of saving her from his murderer.

Moving

Stewart Clarke as Sam was unstoppable as he dashed around the stage, 'walking' through doors and pretending to be invisible and certainly had a very good voice. It must have been very hard for the rest of the cast to act as though he wasn't actually standing

he wasn't actually standing next to them.

Girlfriend Molly (Rebecca Trehearn) who gave a very moving per-formance. As well as the very poignant moments there were plenty of laughs thanks to the psychic Oda Mae Brown (Wendy Mae Brown)

Brown).
Ghost continues at the Grand until Saturday.
SUE ATTWATER

Take That's Mark on the art of being busy doing nothing

Stand-up star going Public in 'small' show

HIP comic Russell Kane is heading to the Black Country for a gig at West Bromwich venue The Public this autumn.

Edinburgh Comedy Award winner Kane is the biggest name yet to play the controversial arts centre and is due to appear on Saturday, October 5.

One of the most sought after stand-ups in the UK, the I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! Now! presenter will be performing at the town centre venue as part of his nationwide Smallness tour.

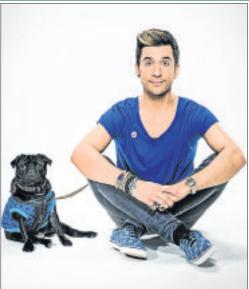
The Jedward-haired stand-up will be taking a comic look at Britain's fascination with smallness.

with smallness.
Linda Saunders, managing director of
The Public said: "We're absolutely thrilled
that Russell Kane will bringing his new
show to The Public in what is a real coup
for West Bromwich."

Tickets are £17.50 and are available via

www.thepublic.com or by calling 0121 533 7161.

7161.
Other comedy dates coming up at The Public include professional 'grumpy old woman' Jenny Eclair with her brand new show Eclarious on June 15, and Gina Yashere on October 19.



Russell Kane, pictured with small friend, has a Black Country date

since reuniting in 2006, superstar singer Mark Owen might be expected to be enjoying a well-deserved rest.

Welsh opera

triple choice

WELSH National Opera returns to Birmingham Hip-

podrome with three produc-tions over four days.

tions over four days.

WNO stage Richard
Wagner's epic Lohengrin
from 5.30pm today (Thursday) and Saturday, following
Wagner Dream, Jonathan
Harvey's bicentenary
tribute to the German composer, last night.

They stage Puccini's
Madan Butterfly trongrow

They stage Puccini's Madam Butterfly tomorrow

But instead the 41-year-old heart-throb from Oldham will be spending this month promoting his fourth solo album with a series of gigs – including a concert at The Institute in Birming-ham tomorrow night

The Institute in Birmingham tomorrow night
(Friday).
The album, ironically entitled The Art of Doing
Nothing, and its lead single
Stars, were both released
this week.
Songs
According to Mark, he's
not very good at doing
nothing.

not very good at doing nothing.

"I've been making songs for 20 years now and I don't really know what else to do," he said.

"It's my hobby and my day job all in one."

The album is his most collaboration to data featuring.

The album is his most collaborative to date, featuring a duet with Salford songstress Ren Harvieu and London rapper Jake Emlyn, who was recommended to him by Robbie Williams.

Tickets for Friday's gig at the venue in Digbeth High Street cost £25.

Artist's work in display spotlight

WALL Heath artist Keith Turley has an art exhibi-tion at Dudley's Himley Hall until September 1.

Hall until September 1.
The collection, called All
in a Day's Work, includes
paintings of people in different environments such
as work and leisure.
Many of the paintings
are large and each has
taken months to prepare
and complete.

and complete.

There are also portraits, figures and landscapes with a local flavour.

Canal trip offers taste of adventure

ADVENTURERS can explore Dudley's tunnels with the Dudley Canal Trust on the first Sunday of the month.

The tour gives people the chance to travel the full 2 888m of the mighty ADVENTURERS

2,888m of the mighty Dudley tunnel and see the limestone mines and caverns in the 45 minute

There is also a music and light show in the Singing Cavern. The cost is £11.80 for adults and £10.80 for seniors or children. For more information call 0121 557 6265.

School's fun day

LUTLEY Primary School holds a fun day in Brook-willow Road, Halesowen, on Saturday. The event is organised by the school's parents, teachers and friends' association to raise money for the school. There will be stalls, music and entertainment between noon and 3pm.



The Children's Family Trust

Ever thought about fostering?

Do you have room in your heart to care for one, or possibly more, children so that brothers and sisters can stay together?

If you have a spare room, why not get in touch?

Some children need a caring home for a few weeks while others need a new 'family for life'.

In return, you will receive a weekly payment of £410 per child, plus in-depth training and an excellent level of support.

For further information, please call:

01905 798229

Email: enquiries@thecft.org.uk Web: www.thecft.org.uk

Are you a member of a local voluntary group?

Do you have a good news story? Do you need to promote an event for a charity or a local good cause?

The Sandwell Chronicle needs local news stories for your local paper for you the local reader.

> Please call the chronicle team on 01902 319 588





Sunday 16th

SUNDAY NIGHT KARAOKE

PREDATORS KARAOKE

Wednesday 19th MR CHAD WHITE

Thursday 20th STARMAKERS KARAOKE

BOOKINGS BEING

TAKEN FOR FATHER'S DAY



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What's On!

SATURDAY'S **TV** 15.06.13

CHOICE



Trooping the Colour: The en's Birthday Parade Highlights BBC2, 6.30pm

As far as pomp and ceremony go, nobody does them quite like the Brits. And there's no event in the British calendar as grand, lavish or darn impressive as Trooping the Colour. Here, Huw Edwards introduces the best moments from this morning's military parade when the Queen's Colour was trooped by the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards at Horse Guards Parade in Whitehall. London, to mark the monarch's official birthday, with members of the royal family, invited guests and the public in attendance.

6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 10.30 Trooping the Colour: The Queen's Birthdy Parade. 1.05 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 1.20 Tennis from Queen's 5.25 A Question of Sport. A-Z. 5.55 Polmless Celebries. (R) 6.40 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

7.00 The Voice UK. Holly

The Voice UK. Holly Willoughby and Reggie Yates present the live semi-final, which sees the eight remaining acts perform individually before taking part in a group number with their coaches.

their coaches.

9.10 The National Lottery
Saturday Night Draws. Matt
Johnson presents the allimportant Lotto and
Thunderball draws, along
with the Lotto Plus 5 results.

9.20 Casualty. Tom faces a
dilemma about truth and

9.20 Casualty. Tom faces a dilemma about fruth and confidentiality regarding an unborn baby's paternity, and Sam tries to help a man deal with his anger and give him a chance to save his marriage.

10.10 BBC News; Weather:

10.30 Match of the Day, Brazil v Japan. Mark Chapman presents highlights of the Confederations Cup, as the Confederations Cup, as the Group A sides met at the Estadio Nacional in Brasilia.

11.10 Film: No Strings Attached. (2011) Premiere. Two old friends try to have a purely sexual relationship, but find themselves falling in love nonetheless. Romantic portains and Ashton Kutcher.

12.50 Weatherview. 12.55 BBC

BBC₂

6.00 This is BBC Two. 6.25 Film:
The Gay Diplomat. (1931) 7.30
Film: The Fabulous Dorseys.
(1947) 8.55 A History of Scotland.
(R) 10.00 Reel History of Britain.
(R) 10.00 Reel History of Britain.
(R) 10.30 The Great British Bake
Off Masterclass. (R) 11.30 Nature's
Great Events. (R) 12.30 Just a
Minute. (R) 1.00 Lew MotoGP.
2.00 Film: Tim. (1979) 3.45 Coast.
4.15 Natural World: Tiger Island.
(R) 5.15 Flog Itl (R)
6.00 Dad's Army. The platon
plans to re-enact the battle
between St George and the
dragon as part of the Wings.
Linaware the ARP wardens
have the same idea. (John Colour: The
Topping the Colour: The
Onesen's Birthdew Parade

have the same idea. (H)
Trooping the Colour. The
Queen's Birthday Parade
Highlights. Huw Edwards
introduces the best moments
from this morning's military
parade when the 1st
Battalion Welsh Guards
trooped its colour to mark
the Queen's official birthday.

8.00 Live International Rugby Union. Argentina v Engla (Kick-off 8.10pm). Cover of the second fixture in a two-match series, as the sides meet at the Estadio

Aires.

10.00 Film: A Serious Man. (2009)
Premiere. A mild-mannered
professor seeks spiritual
advice as a series of
disasters disrupts his life.
Comedy, starring Michael
Stuhlbarg and Richard Kind.

11.40 Film: Skeletons. (2010) Premiere. Two "emotional exorcists' able to psychically uncover people's dark secrets help a client find her missing husband. Fantasy, starring Ed Gaughan.

6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland 6.00 CITV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.10 Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.25 The Hive (R) 6.35 The Hive (R) 6.35 The Hive (R) 6.40 Dino Dan. (R) 6.55 Dino Dan. (R) 7.05 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Canimals. (R) 7.35 Ultimate Spider-Man. 8.00 Date. (R) 2.55 The Spider-Man. 8.00 Date. (R) 2.15 The Spider-Man. 8.00 Date. Wrote: (R) 11.20 IV News; Weather: 11.30 Saturday Farm. 12.35 All Star Mr & Mrs. (R) 1.40 River Monsters. (R) 2.35 The Chase. (R) 3.35 You've Been Framed! (R) 4.05 Film: Happy Feet. (2006)

6.10 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.25 ITV News; Weather.

6.25 ITV News; Weather.
6.40 Film: Despicable Me. (2010) Promiere. An evil genus adopts three orphans to ald his latest plot, but fatherhood has a strange effect on him. Animated comedy, with the voices of Steve Carell and Jason Segol.
8.30 Goodbye Granadaland. Peter Kay bids a fond farewell to Granada Studios in Manchester, exploring the building from rooftop to basement and introducing archive clips from memorable shows produced.

10 00 The Americans The counter

10.00 The Americans. The couple discover their murdered colleague Robert had a wife colleague Robert had a wife. 11.05 Film: Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels. (1998) Four friends get out of their depth while trying to pay off a contract, with lick Moral or the contract of the contra 1.00 Jackpot247. 3.00 In Plain Sight. (R) 4.25 ITV Nightscreen

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 British Rallycross. 7.00 The Grid. 7.30 Ranycross. 7.00 The Grid. 7.30 FIM Superbike World Championship. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 10.00 Frasier (R) 10.35 Frasier. (R) 11.05 The (R) 10.35 Frasier. (Y) 11.05 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.35 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.35 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.35 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.35 Heston's Fantastical Food. (R) 1.40 Channel Racing. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.40 Come Dine with Me. Lloyd Cast hosts the final dinner party from the West Midlands. (R) 6.40 Channel 4 News

Channel 4 News

Midlands. (H)
Channel A News.
World's Weirdest Weather.
Alex Beresford discovers
how an unusual combination
of weather phenomena
reated deadly storms in
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married couple's romantic evening takes a dapperous turn when a case of mistaken identity leaves them on the run from gansters. Comedy, with Tina Fey.

11.20 Film: Kingpin. (1996) Comedy, starring Woody Harrelson.

1.25 The Million Pound Drop Live. (R) 2.58 Fridey Night In. (R) 3.55 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.15 Countdown.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Powe Hangers: Super Samural. (H) 10.31 ThunderCats. (R) 11.00 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 12.00 Big Brother: Live Launch Part 2. (R) 1.30 CSI: NY. (R) 2.20 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 CSI: NY. (R) 4.10 CSI: NY. (R) 5.05 Film: The Sea Wolves. (1980)

7.25 NCIS. Tony becomes obsessed with finding

7.25 NCIS. Tony becomes obsessed with finding a woman whose brother has been murdered. (R) 8.15 NCIS. The team investigates when a fellow agent's burnt body is discovered, and Gibbs can no longer avoid revealing what happened in Mexico as the case progresses. (R) 9.10 Big Brother: Secrets & Lies. Highlights of the past 24 hours, under the all-seein

Highlights of the past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, who this year has promised plenty of twists and turns and gamechanging tasks.

10.10 Big Brother's Bit on the Psych. New series. Spin-off show in which presenter AD Odudu is joined by apnel of a part of the present of the present of the presenter of the pr

anayse are benaviour of the housemates.

11.10 Neighbours: This Week.
Hour-long episode featuring highlights from Ramsay Street over the past week, when Steph stepped up her plan to win Lucas back and Georgia ended her relationship with Kyle.

relationsing with kyle.

12.10 SuperCasino. 4.00 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 4.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.00 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.05 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.25 The Funky Valley Show. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May
the Fourth Be with You 7.30 Match
of the Day Live. Brazil v. Japan
(Kick-off 8.00pm). 10.00 Film: Con
Air (1997) 11.50 Family Guy

7 00 Oceans 8 00 The Riviera: A History in Pictures 9.00 Wallander: Sidetracked 10.25 The Beach Boys: Doin' It Again 11.20 The Beach Boys: Live at Knebworth

ITV2
2.50 Film: Dragonheart (1996)
4.50 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: LOL Moments 5.5 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: Singers & Dancers 6.55 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: Singers & Dancers 6.55 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: Citest Moments Ever 8.00 Britain's Got More Talent Best & Worst: Most Moments 9.00 Film: 2 Fast 2 Furious (2003)
1.10 Jenne 1.2 Virsl. ore 11.55

3.55 Foyle's War 6.00 Lewis 8.00 Agatha Christie's Marple 10.00 Blue Murder 11.30 Wire in the Blood

ITV4
2.30 Lonesome Dove 6.30 British
Touring Car Championship 8.00
The Motorbike Show 9.00 Hell on
Wheels 10.00 Film: Buried (2010)

E4
3.00 Made in Chelsea 4.00 Rules of Engagement 6.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.00 The Mindy Project 7.30 How I Met Your Mother 8.30 2 Broke Girls 9.00 Film: Hitman (2007) 10.50 The Inbetweeners 11.55 The Big Bang Theory

2.45 The Truman Show (1998) 4.40 Picture Perfect (1997) 6.40 Pride (2007) Fact-based drama, starring Terrence Howard. 9.00 Devil (2010) 10.35 Cellular (2004)

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THE SAME SPECS FOR LESS **Lower Prices Than ANY High Street Optician** **SUNDAY'S TV** 16.06.13

What's On!

CHOICE



The White Queen BBC1, 9pm

After weeks of trailers, this epic, 10-part drama based on Philippa Gregory's bestselling, fact-based novel about three women's quest for power in 15th-century England – Elizabeth Woodville, Margaret Beaufort and Anne Neville. It begins with Elizabeth down on her luck, having been widowed when her husband was killed fighting for the deposed Lancastrian King Henry VI. Now destitute, her only hope of supporting her two young sons, is to use her beauty to capture the heart

of her family's greatest enemy, young York King

Edward IV.

BBC1

6.08 Breakfast. 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Ouestions. 11.00 Sunday Politics; Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.20 Countryfile. (8) 1.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.00 Tennis from Queen's. The AEGON Championships. Sue Barker introduces coverage of the final of the Wimbledon warm-up event, held at the Queen's Club in London. Coverage continues on BBC2. 5.00 Songs of Praise. 5.35 Earthflight. (Rws; Regional News; Weather.

6.35 BBC News: Regional News; Westher.
7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison head to north Wales, where he visits Rhyl for an annual festival of forestry and she explores a strange and wonderful coastal habitat. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
8.00 Antiques Roadshow. The experts return to the North Yorkshire town of Yorkshire town of the North Yor

desk and a liara.

9.00 The White Queen. New series. Epic historical drama set against the backdrop of the Wars of the Roses. King Edward V causes controversy by marrying a commoner. Rebecca commoner. Rebecca 10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

Weather

10.25 Match of the Day Live.
Spain v Uruguay (Kick-off
11.00m), Gary Lineker
presents coverage of the
opening Group B match in
the Confederations Cup,
staged at the Arena
Pernambuco in Recife,
Brazil.

1.00 Weatherview. 1.05 BBC News.

BBC₂

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 6.45 Film: Love Affair, (1939) 8.15 Gardeners World, (R) 8.45 The At O of TV Gardening, 9.30 The Beechgrove Garden, 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites, 11.30 Chinses Food Made Easy, (R) 12.00 What to Eat Now, (R) 72.30 Live MotoGF, 2.05 EastEnders, (R) 4.00 Flog It! 5.00 Tennis from Queen's.

is from Queen's.

Porridge. (R)

Peter Jones Meets. The
Dragons' Den star chats to
Michael Acton Smith, the
CEO of entertainment
company Mind Candy, and
Laura Tenison, founder of
maternity wear and baby
clothing firm JoJo Maman
Bebe.

Bebe.

8.00 Operation Snow Tiger. Part
two of two. Cameraman May two of two. Cameraman Max Hug Williams follows a tiger to see if she has new cubs, while Liz Bonnin searches for another female that has gone

missing.

9.00 Rise of the Continents. Iain
Stewart examines the effect
of Australia's formation and
development on Aboriginal
history, modern-day mining
and the evolution of its
unique wildlife.

10.00 Blackadder II. A bloodthirsty bishop menaces Edmund. (R)

10.30 Mock the Week. Topical comedy quiz, hosted by Dara

O Briain. (R)

11.00 What a Load of Buzzcocks.
Highlights of the comedy
quiz and music news stories
from 2004. (R)

rrom 2004. (R)

11.30 Film: Valhalla Rising.
(2009) Premiere. Adventure,
starring Mads Mikkelsen.

12.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R)
1.50 Holby City. (R) 2.50 This Is
BBC Two.

1.00 CTV: Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.10 Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.10 Jake and the Neverland Pirates. 6.25 The Hive. (R) 6.35 The Hive. (R) 6.40 Dino Dan. (R) 6.55 Dino Dan. (R) 7.05 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Canimals. (R) 7.30 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turles. 8.00 Sonny with a Chance. 8.25 Tiv News. 3.00 Country House Sunday. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 11.20 Murder, Show USA. (R) 11.20 Murder, Show USA. (R) 11.20 Murder, Show USA. (R) 11.20 The News; Ohristles The Main in the Brown Suit. (1989) 1.30 Love Your Garden. (R) 2.30 A Touch of Frost. (R) 4.35 Film: Batteries Not Included. (1987) 6.35 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.45 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Kym Lomas. Rav Wildling and Dennic Taylor answer

6.45 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars.
Kym Lomas, Rav Wilding
and Dennis Taylor answer
questions to win turns on an
an decessory of the star of

CHANNEL 4

CHANEL 4.
6.00 Kirstie's Vintage Gems. 6.10
The Treacle People. (R) 6.20 The
Hoobs. (R) 6.45 The Hoobs. (R)
7.10 Transvulcania. 7.35 London
Nocturne. 8.30 Frasier (R) 9.00
Trasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch.
12.55 The Bing Bang Theory. (R)
12.55 The Bingsons. (R) 1.55 The
Simpsons. (R) 2.25 Film: The
Three Musketeers. (1993) 4.25
Deal or No Deal. 5.25 Channel 4
News. 5.55 The Political Slot.
6.00 Film: St Trinian's 2: The
Legend of Fritton's Gold.
(2009) The mischlevous
schooligiris hunt for buried
treasure after learning the
headmistress Miss Fritton is
descended from pirates.
Leverett and Gemma Arterton.
8.00
Terror in the Skies.
Aeromatical engineer

Terror in the Skies.
Aeronautical engineer
Brendan Walker looks at how
the reliance on increasingly
complex technology in
planes could cause pilots to
make new kinds of errors.

make new kinds of errors.

9.00 The Returned. The French supernatural thriller continues. Simon approaches Adele, only for Thomas to find out about his "return", while Camille finds herself unable to fit back into her family.

10.05 Film. District 9. (2009) A South African bureaucrat gets stranded in an

South African bureauerat gets Stranded in an internment camp meant to segregate alien refugees from the human population. Sci-fi, starring Jason Cope. 12.10 Film: Hustle & Flow. (2005) 2.10 Southland. (R) 2.55 I Hate That Smile. (R) 3.00 Location, Location, Location, Location, Location, Location (R) 5.38 Beaking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshakel: Peppa Pig. 6.05
Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Filiand the Flowertots. (R) 6.25 Bubble
Gupples 6.35 The Mr Men Show.
Milkshakel Monkey. (R) 7.05
Roobarb and Gustard Too. (R) 7.10
Roobarb and Gustard Too. (R) 7.10
Rananas in Pylamas. (R) 7.40 City of Friends. (R) 7.55 Noddy in Toyland. (R) 7.40 City of Friends. (R) 7.50 Bert and Friends
Great Adventures. (R) 7.55 Little
Princess. (R) 8.10 The Adventures
of Bottle Top Bill and His Best
Friend Corky. (R) 8.20 Mio Mao.
(R) 8.25 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 8.45 Hupert Bear. (R) 9.00 Ben and
History Company. (R) 9.45
Jelly Jamm. (R) 10.00 The Mr Men
Show. (R) 10.10 Power Ranger.
Super Samural. (R) 10.45
Thunder Cats. (R) 11.10 William
and Kate: Baby Makes Three. (R)
11.10 BB BOTS: Rylan's
Supersized Celebrity Sunday. 2.10
Filim: Daddy bay Camp. (2006) 4.00
Filim: Daddy bay Camp. (2006) 4.00
Filim: Daddy bay Camp. (2006) 4.00
Filim: Daddy bay Camp. (2007)
Aroouthe World in 80 Days.
(2004)
8.00 Once Upon a Time.
Brunnestitiskin creates a

(2004)

8.00 Once Upon a Time.
Rumpelstiltskin creates a
new potion that allows him to
cross the town border.

9.00 Big Brother: Secrets & Lies.
Daily round-up of highlights.

Dally round-up of highlights.
10.00 Film. AS Good as It Belts.
(1997) Romantic comedy
drama, starring Jack
Nicholson and Helen Hunt.
12.45 Campus PD. 1.15
SuperCasino. 4.00 Michaela's Wild
Challenge. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R)
4.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R)
5.00 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.20 Angels Show.
(R) 5.40 Roary the Becing
Show. (R) 5.40 Roary the Becing Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May
the Fourth Be with You 7.30 Match
of the Day Live. Mexico v Italy
(Kick-off 8.00pm). 10.00 The Call
Centre 11.00 Family Guy 11.45
American Dad!

BBC Four 7.00 The Dark Ages: An Age of Light 8.00 The Review Show 9.00 Fathers and Songs: Music for Father's Day 10.00 Film: My Afternoons with Marquerite (2016 Afternoons with Margueritte (2010) 11.20 What's Going On? The Life and Death of Marvin Gaye

2.25 Film: Dragonheart (1996)
4.35 You've Been Framed and
Famous! 5.40 Film: Star Wars:
Episode I – The Phantom Menace
(1999) 8.15 Film: Mr Bean's
Holiday (2007) 10.00 The Only Way
Is ESsex 10.30 Big Rich Texas
11.50 Hell's Kitchen

3.40 Inspector Morse 6.00 Agatha Christie's Marple 8.00 David Jason's Greatest Escapes 9.00 Film: Meet Joe Black (1998)

2.35 Lonesome Dove 6.40 Film: Escape to Victory (1981) 9.00 Film: Species III (2004) Sci-fi horror species III (2004) Sci-II norror sequel, starring Sunny Mabrey. 11.15 Father's Day 11.40 Film: McVicar (1980)

4.30 90210 5.30 The Mindy Project 6.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.30 New Girl 8.00 Film: Hairspray (2007) 10.15 The Inbetweeners 11.15 Alan Carr: Chatty Man

3.00 Star Trek: Generations (1994)

5.15 Diary of a Wimpy Kid (2010) 7.05 Big Momma's House (2000) 9.00 Frozen (2010) Thriller, starrii Emma Bell. 10.50 Saw (2004) Horror, starring Cary Elwes.

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY

Green Card, BBC1, 12.05am
A French musician wanting to start a new life in America and a New York woman vie for the perfect flat, only to discover the owner will only rent it out to a married ollscover the owner will only rent it out to a married couple. The unlikely pair realise they can solve their problem by getting hitched. However, suspicious immigration officials keep a close eye on them, forcing them to actually live together – and eventually the sham marriage turns into true love. Romantic comedy, with Gerard Depardieu and Andie MacDowell. (1990)

TUESDAY

Biker Boyz, BBC1, 11.35pm
The son of a mechanic killed in a crash is determined to honour his father's memory by becoming a champion motorcycle racer. However, the leader of the underground motorcycle club where his father worked refuses to let him join. Outraged, the young biker assembles his own team and vows to avenge the insult. Action drama, starring Laurence Fishburne, Derek Luke, Orlando Jones and Lisa Bonet. (2003)



WEDNESDAY

Flight 93, Channel 4, 2.20am Fact-based drama about the events aboard the one plane used in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. After learning of the terrifying events at the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon, the passengers realised what was happening and fought back to wrest control of the aircraft. Starring Jeffrey Nordling. (2006)

Columbo: A Stitch in Crime, ITV, 3am
The detective investigates the murder of a nurse, who was about to denounce a renowned cardiac surgeon for planning to murder the colleague helping him design a lucrative life-saving drug. Crime drama, starring Peter Falk, Leonard Nimoy and Will Geer. (1973)

The lives of three American steelworkers and their families are torn apart in the wake of the Vietnam War. After enduring horrlife treatment in a prison camp during the conflict, the three friends return to their homes but struggle to readjust to normal life. Oscar-winning drama, starring Robert De Niro, Christopher Walken, Meryl Streep, John Savage and John Cazale, (1978)

The Shipping News, BBC2, 11.05pm A man struggling to rebuild his life after the death of his emotionally distant wife moves to a small town with his daughter and estranged aunt, where he undergoes a profound journey of self-discovery. Lasse Hallstrom's drama, starring Kevin Spacey and Julianne Moore. (2001)

Pick of the Week

Bringing Hollywood style to Peterborough

hen you think of interior décor, what springs to mind? For most of us, it probably means a new lick of paint, or some wallpapering to cover that unsightly crack on the wall, and maybe, if you're feeling flush, the odd piece of new furniture here and there.

Although it's a profession that's Although its a profession that's been around for many a moon, probably many of us hadn't paid much attention to the idea of employing such a person until Changing Rooms came along in 1996 and made stars of the likes of Linda Barker, Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen and Anna Ryder Richardson.

For many years, Carol Smillie looked on as they and their colleagues cleared out people's living rooms or bedrooms, took a humble piece of MDF and transformed the place into a pulpose.

It rarely looked as if their efforts could withstand a gust of air created by a slamming door, but for the five minutes they were on camera, they were pretty good.

Changing Rooms' success meant heaps of copycats series followed in

lis ware, allifolyin in recent years, the home makeover genre has largely fallen out of the spotlight. But that could all be about to change... That's because Martyn Lawrence Bullard is heading to our screens in Hollywood Me, Channel 4, Wednesday, 8.00pm

He's spent years working his way up Los Angeles's society ladder via his profession as an interior designer, and now boasts a client list that includes Elton John, Cher, Aaron Sorkin, the Osbournes and Christina Aguillera – eat your heart out, Linda and co!

Martyn has also presented several US shows, and now he's bringing his unique style to the UK for this new, six-part series – and we're promised six-part series – and we're promised that his renovations will please their home's owner, and will be standing for many years to come.

"Martyn is one of Hollywood's mos sought-after and flamboyant interior designers and we are delighted that designers and we are deligned that he is bringing his unique touch of eccentricity and celebrity glamour to unsuspecting members of the British public," says Channel 4's Dominic Bird.

Each edition will see Martyn jetting a British resident to California for a

makeover, while he transforms their home into a luxury pad. The first episode sees him visit Peterborough, where hard-working mother of quads Emily Bates is in need of some TLC.

In LA, she's taken under the wing of Sharon Osbourne, who takes her on an amazing shopping spree.

Meanwhile, back home, Martyn sets to work, giving Emily's Peterborough pad an injection of Hollywood glamour – but will she be impressed with the results?

Executive producer Rob Butterfield is confident all participants will be thrilled: "With the weather, the economy and the news so gloomy, Hollywood Me brings some much needed La-la Land sunshine, A-List eccentricity and makeovers to die for." "Martyn is a great interior designer – he's witty, incredibly talented, but a fish out of water working in the UK suburbs rather than the Hollywood

And our contributors really do have the times of their lives as they're whisked over to LA for a day of A-list treatments with one of their favourite

Martyn Lawrence Bullard, Wednesday, Channel 4, 8pm



Best of the Rest

Monday Long Lost Family

ITV, 9pm
Davina McCall and Nicky Campbell return for this tear-jerking series that reunites, well, long-lost family members. But it's the latter for whom this first episode is going to hit rather close to home. Nicky was adopted as a child, and is now a patron of the British Association for Adoption and Fostering. He meets fireman Alan Ross-Harper who's searching for his birth mother who gave him up for adoption in 1958. Keep the tissues handy. up to adoption in 1935. Aeep the issues harloy, as Davina pays a visit to reunite the mother and son. Meanwhile, 68-year-old Susan Udy is desperate to find the daughter she gave up for adoption when she was 21.

Something for Nothing

Channel 4, 8pm
Times are hard. Of course you don't need that pointing out – you're reminded every time you check your bank balance – which is why this little treat has dropped into the schedules at just the right time. Consumer journalist Harry Wallop is on a mission to find out how to live well, without spending a single penny. He's set himself the challenge of looking good, spending a night on the town and throwing a big shindig for the whole community... on a budget of absolutely nothing The programme is bursting with tips on how to grab cash-free bargains and features some of the most successful freebie finders in the country, including Martha who bagged herself £26,000 worth of wedding freebies.

BBC1, 9pm

Gemma Redgrave is no stranger to medical dramas – she used to be the star of Bramwell, the tale of a pioneering Victorian female doctor, who was constantly been belittled by her male colleagues. However, Frankie has given her a coinagues. However, I tainle has given her a chance to play the snooty medic who's lost touch with her patients' needs for a change, as Dr Evans once again butts heads with our feisty district nurse. In the last in the current series, Frankie is frustrated when Nicky, a patient suffering from systemic lupus is told she is fit to work and has her benefits cut. Meanwhile, Dr Evans' solution is to prescribe her steroids so she can get through a shift at the supermarket.

Wednesday Rhys Jones's Wildlife Patrol BBC1, 7.30pm

Rhys Jones is a scientific consultant at Cardiff University who works with the police, wildlife groups and concerned members of the public in the fight to save our animals from humans, and humans from animals. Around half his work takes place in the field, investigating wildlife crime, while the other half is spent dealing with the conflicts caused when humans insist on dealing with the animals themselves. This new series, first broadcast in BBC into animal cruelty.

Love and Marriage

ITV. 9pm

Ken (Duncan Preston) fakes illness in an attempt to win Pauline (Alison Steadman) back. However, she ignores his efforts and goes to a posh hotel with new partner Peter. Meanwhile, a cash-strapped Kevin (Stewart Wright) pinches money from a deceased pensioner When his mistruths finally catch up with him, Sarah (Ashley Jensen) is stunned by the lies and dreads the fact her husband could be heading for prison.

BBC2, 8pm entary series Airnort finished its run for good way back in 2008
(Jeremy Spake – remember him?
– certainly has a lot to be thankful

for since the show thrust him into mild celebrity status), However, this latest series of Airport
Live has shown that we've
not lost our appetite for all things aviation. The team pitch up at Heathrow for the final time, as Dan Snow finds out if he has what it takes to become an air traffic controller, while

Anita Rani

discovers how

a quieter future Would I Lie to You?, Friday, BBC1, 8.30pm

Would I Lie to You?

BBC1, 8.30pm
On Super Saturday during the 2012 Olympics, the then little-known Greg Rutherford won gold in the long jump. A year ago, the unassuming sporting hero would probably have laughed if you'd told him that within 12 months he'd be an Olympic champion, have an MBE and be appearing on Would I Lie to You? But here he is, completing the third event in that particular trio. Whether he's as good at fibbing as he is jumping remains to be seen, but he'll be pitting his wits against broadcaster Kirsty Young, actress and writer Joanna Scanlan and German comedian Henning When. As ever, Rob Brydon takes charge, while David Mitchell and Lee Mack are the team captains.

ITV, 9pm

Michael Buerk and Bettany Hughes present another edition of the posh homes countdown show featuring 'cutting-edge CGI' (the law for most documentaries these days), while there is also archive footage and dramatic reconstruction. In episode three. Gethin Jones visits a B&B called Bodiwan in North Wales: Homeland actor David Harewood visits Picton House, built by a man who came to Britain as a slave, but ended up as one of the country's richest men, and Rory McGrath visits St. Levan's cell, a ruined structure on the coast of Cornwall, Plus, Lucinda Lambton learns more about Renishaw Hall near Sheffield, and Ann Widdecombe visits a unique 18th-century abode in Devon.

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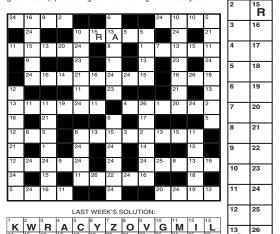
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1 & 10 Ac. It's a disadvantage to retreat (4.4)
- 8. Being in another country, I repeat tax fiddle! (10)
- 9. Fellow craftsman?
- 10. See 1 Across
- 12. Shocking scares - the gentle touch is needed (6)
- 14. The record will require only a small amount of time (6) 15. Was consistent with
- a bad habit at table
- 17. Gaming-piece built to withstand attack
- 18. A kind of box, but
- not for clothing (4) 19. Having no rash (8)
- 21. Those blooming
- plots! (6-4) 22. A bit of joint ownership for a sizeable community (4)

Down

- 2. The correct aspect is a matter of precise degree (5-5)
- To be in full cry? (4) 4. To strike father back
- causes a shock (6) 5. Current line of fast-
- moving vehicles (6)
 6. Breaks up the
- orchestras? (8) 7. A number of cards providing a kind of hand (4)
- Stock market display in which bulls but not bears will feature! (6-4)
- 13 Sounds as though I scan through the books, but they're a little above the
- pupils (8) 16. Not a fertile place to leave (6)
- 17. Mob round the East shouted triumphantly (6)
- 18. A natural aptitude is present (4)
- 20. Survive after everybody else (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

- 1. Blackleg (4)
- 8. Power of command (10) 9. Contour line of equal tem-
- perature (8) 10. Uniform (4)
- 12. Climb (6)
- 14. To moderate (6)
- 15. Let (6)
- 17. Strangeness (6)
- 18. Sore on the eyelid (4)
- 19. Middling (8)
- 21. Merge (10) 22. Require (4)

Down

- 2. Compatible (10)
- 3. Blemish (4)
- 4. Obvious (6)
- 5. Allow (6)
- 6. Respected (8)
- 7. Twirl (4)
- 11. Voters (10)
- 13. Coming from the east (8) 16. Lower (6)
- 17. Severe trial (6)
- 18. Break suddenly (4)
- 20. Begin (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits all the digits from 1 to 9

8	2	1	6	7	3	4	5	9
5	3	9	1	4	8	2	7	6
4	6	7	5	2	9	1	3	8
9	8	5	2	6	1	3	4	7
7	4	2	9	3	5	6	8	1
6	1	3	7	8	4	5	9	2
2	7	8	3	5	6	9	1	4
1	5	6	4	9	7	8	2	3
3	9	4	8	1	2	7	6	5

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Atoli; 8 Scrupie; 9 Em-brace; 10 Totern; 12 False hopes; 15 Interprets; 18 Looks; 19 Fall out; 21 Athlete; 22 Siren. Down: 1 Career girl; 2 Doubt; 3 Plea; 4 Assess; 5 Crotchet; 6 Epitaph; 11 Nusic stand; 13 Ar-rested; 14 Atrophy; 16 Rafter; 17 Board; 20 Los OUICK - Across: 7 Moody; 8 Arbours; 9 Opulent; 10 Tempt; 12 Stentorian; 15 Incendiary; 18 Naive; 19 Undergo; 21 Revolve; 22 Brief. Down: 1 Imposition; 2 Bogus; 3 Type; 4 Hasten; 5 Abat-tor; 6 Turnol; 11 Tonic sol-fia; 13 Tenderly; 14 Achieve; 16 Inured; 17 Train; 20 Debt.

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A DECEPTIVELY spacious detached bungalow with larger than average room sizes is for sale with a price tag of £219.995.

tag of £219,995.

The property in Mill Lane, Willenhall, has an entrance porch, entrance hallway, 22ft lounge, 21ft P-shaped conservatory, fitted kitchen, separate utility, four double bedrooms, family bathroom and guest cloakroom, as well as benefitting from garage, uPVC double glazing, gas central heating and block paved driveway.

The cloakroom has a WC, and there are four bedrooms, a bathroom with WC, pedestal wash hand basin and corner spa bath with shower over, with a utility with cupboard, work top and space and plumbing for automatic washing machine.

machine.

The kitchen, 10ft 10in by 8ft, has a range of wall and base units, work tops, inset one-and-a-half bowl sink, built-in electric oven with electric hos over and breakfast bar.

Measuring 21ft 11in by 13ft 9in the lounge has a feature fireplace with marble hearth and patio doors to a conservatory which is 21ft 8in by 13ft 2in and with Evench doors to the rear.

by 13ft 2in and with French doors to the rear.

by 151 2in and with French doors to the rear. Outside to the front is a block paved drive-way with ample parking and leading to the garage with to the rear a garden mainly laid to lawn with paved patio area.

Call L& S Prestige Estates on 01902 606595 for details.



A large driveway at the property has ample parking space

Conservatory and utility are big plus for this semi



Situated on Furlongs Road, this semi-detached is on sale with estate agent Connells for offers based on £139,950

A REFURBISHED and immaculately-presented semi-detached house, situated in the popular location of Furlongs Road, Sedgley, is on the market based

on offers around £139,950.

The property benefits from gas central heating and double glazing.

The accommodation briefly consists of

an entrance hallway, two reception rooms, conservatory addition, and fitted

There is a utility area, downstairs WC, aree bedrooms and a family bathroom.

bathroom.

On the ground floor the lounge is 10ft 8in by 13ft 2in and the dining room 10ft 8in by 10ft 10in and with French doors to a conservatory measuring 9ft 6in by 10ft 5in.

The kitchen, 8ft 4in by 11ft 5in, has a range of wall and base units with roll-top

work surfaces.

In addition, there is a stainless steel sink drainer, space for appliances and plumbing for an automatic washing machine, with a utility room with space for appliances and work surfaces and a WC.

Shrubbery

On the first floor there are three bedrooms and a bathroom having panelled bath with shower over, basin in vanity unit and

Outside to the front is a driveway with offf-road parking, and to the rear a patio area, lawn, plants and shrubbery. Call estate agent Connells on 01384 214770 for more details or to arrange a

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£550 PCM



s centrally located to Halesowen, within easy reach of the unnu cense one bocal bus station featuring 2 bedrooms, large lounge with access to your with abloomy, fittled kitchen, bathroom with shower, electric heating, double lazing, allocated parking space for one car. A must see property, EPC: C



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HALESOWEN, Elmtree Grove

£550 PCM



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HALESOWEN, Adams Court

£525 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH. Court Street



CRADLEY HEATH. Clifton Street

furnished modern mid terrace house with s central heating, living room, fitted dining



STOURBRIDGE, Bagley Street

December was a minimum to make the centre. This lovely semi-detached house features a great lounge, large dining kitchen with gas oven and hob, 2 double bedrooms, house bathroom with shower, nice sized rear garden, on road



HALESOWEN. The Infield

unning and modern apartment on a sought after new tate. This ground floor apartment features 2 bedrooms,



STOURBRIDGE, Hall Street

Located in the sought after area of Oldswinford. A quaint mid terraced house, close to local shops and transport links



Stunning views from this top floor apartment. Located within walking distance to Halesowen, the apartment features 2 double bedrooms, a light and airy lounge, house



DUDLEY. Anchor Drive

£475 PCM





LYE. High Street

Fully refurbished in the centre of Lye. This large and spacious 1st floor apartment has a lovely lounge with a feature bay window, 2 good sized bedrooms, new bathroom suite but no shower, modern and contempary kitchen with oven and hob, electric heating, double glazing, on road parking. Available now. EPC: F





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Maple Road, Dudley



Offers Over£100,000

Semi detached three bedroom property comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, conservatory, rear garden and garage.

Stuart Road, Halesowen





A traditional detached house comprises two reception rooms, three bedrooms and bathroom Halesowen

William Barrows Way, Tipton



Semi detached four bedroom three storey property ground floor having downstairs WC, utility area, lounge/diner and garage.

Old Park Road, Dudley



Offers Over£90,000

Three bedroom traditional semi detached house briefly comprising kitchen, bathroom, front and rear gardens and driveway.

The Lenches, Shelsley Avenue





Modern detached house with accommodation comprising lounge, dining room, kitchen, garage and rear garden. Halesowen

Arundel Drive, Tividale



Offers Over£120,000

Semi detached three bedroom property briefly comprising lounge, dining room, study, kitchen, family bathroom, rear garden and driveway.

Perry Close, Dudley



Offers Over£85,000

Terraced two bedroom property briefly comprising lounge, kitchen, bathroom, front and rear gardens and parking.

Cherry Orchard Crescent, Halesowen



Semi detached property situated in a popular cul-de-sac location. Includes lounge, three bedrooms, garage and rear garden. Halesowen

Brett Young Close, Halesowen



Modern second floor apartment comprising open plan lounge/kitchen, master bedroom with en-suite and family bathroom. Halesowen

Crockett Street, Dudley



Offers Over£120,000

A well presented three bedroom property briefly comprising entrance porch, lounge/diner, kitchen, family bathroom, garage, front and rear gardens.

Gammage Street, Dudley



Offers Over£80,000

End terraced two bedroom property briefly comprising entrance hall, dining room, lounge, kitchen, bathroom and rear garden.

Powke Lane, Rowley Regis



Offers Over£130,000

This modern terraced house comprises lounge/diner, kitchen two bedrooms and family bathroom. Halesowen

Parkside Road, Halesowen



Two bedroom semi detached house on popular residential estate. Comprising lounge, kitchen and bathroom Halesowen









Motoring

Compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Bentley puts you in the lap of luxury

CHINA probably isn't the first place that would spring to mind when choosing a suitable location for the launch of a new, and very

able location for the launch of a new, and very important, car.

Out in the sticks, asphalt roads turn to gravel for no apparent reason, while in cities such as Beijing, congestion is something that happens all the time. And the driving style can best be described as freeform chaos.

But this is the new Bentley Flying Spur, a car which will be appearing on wish lists all over the world but particularly in the Far East. China's new breed of successful people find Bentley's restrained status and luxury are the perfect fit, hence the first examples have hit the streets of Beijing.

Rather than a radical change, the new Flying Spur wisely follows the template set by the original. It's an imposing four-door machine but with more curvature around the hips and greater separation from the Continental GT coupe.

Smoother

The nose has full-width grilles and at the rear there's a

The nose has full-width grilles and at the rear there's a squared-off tail and a smoother flow of the boot lid.

The more radical customer might prefer lighter shades but the sensible soul will choose a more sober metallic for

but the sensible soul will choose a more sober metallic for the proper Bentley look.

Starting at the back seats rather than the front, there is the kind of room you would expect from a car in which you might well be driven. It's as cosseting and elegant as you could wish for, while the huge range of wood combinations means you can make it as tasteful or otherwise as you wish. As well as claiming a reduction in noise by 40 per cent over the old car, heated, ventilated and electrically adjustable seats for all offer an even better back-seat experience.

rience. Bentley has introduced a touchscreen remote that sits by your knees and which glides elegantly forward at the touch of a button so it can be handheld. About the size of a modest



The Bentley Flying Spur is powered by a twin-turbocharged 6.0-litre engine producing 616bhp

mobile phone, you can control the satnay, audio system, rear climate control, sun blinds and even view the speedometer and trip computer. It's a small thing in many ways but it sums up the attention that has been paid to the details – and

it really shows.

The fundamentals, of course, are already well in place. The body structure uses aluminium for the bonnet and front wings, a composite rear bootlid and high-strength

steels for a better combination of safety and reduced weight. Overall, the body is four per cent stiffer than before while the whole car is 50kg lighter – Bentley says this would be more but for an increased specification. Motive power comes from the superb twin-turbocharged 6.0-litre W12 already seen in the Continental GT, and here it produces a more than adequate 616bhp. Driving all four wheels through the impressive eight-speed automatic transmis-

sion, the Flying Spur is spectacularly fast despite its significant size and weight. The 0-62mph time is despatched in 4.6 seconds; 0-100mph in less than 10, and the top speed of 4.6 seconds; 0-100mph in less than 10, and the top speed of 200mph surely is enough for anyone. The Flying Spur doesn't always feel this fast though; driven in full-on chauffeur mode, it will sail along as well as any super-luxury car. A new specification tyre and softer suspension over the old car improve what was already a good ride but separates it further from the more sporty Continental GT.

Those wanting the bigger wheel options will pay a very marginal price in terms of slightly less bump absorption, but unless you make a habit of swerving between pot holes, the Flying Spur delivers superb comfort.

Powerhouse

Powerhouse

Powerhouse

Of course, that powerhouse under the bonnet offers such prodigious torque that you barely need more than a tiny prod of the accelerator to keep up with the traffic. Press more firmly and you can leave it well and truly behind. Even when giving everything, there's nothing more than a cultured roar from the exhaust as it unrelentingly blasts forward. The auto gearbox works best when left to its own devices despite the presence of paddles, while the dampers can be firmed up for more demanding driving.

The Flying Spur is inevitably a little more comfort-biased but it is no less capable when pushed through a series of bends. The brakes are immensely strong, the steering is reassuringly accurate and offers decent feel – in other words, it has the ability to hustle along way beyond the demands of 99 per cent of owners.

That sums up the new Flying Spur rather well. The improvements over the old car are in all the key areas, yet there's more performance, comfort and specification when there was already plenty. It's hard to see a way in which the Flying Spur could do anything other than deliver a very satisfying experience.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2. Highest: Adam 1.4i 16v VVT (87 PS): Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra-urban 64.2 (4.4), Combined 51.3 (5.5). CO₂ emissions 129g/km. Lowest: Adam 1.2i 16v VVT (70 PS): Urban 43.4 (6.5), Extra-urban 67.2 (4.2), Combined 56.5 (5.0). CO₂ emissions 118g/km.

Motoring

Limited edition Renault is packed full of goodies



The limited edition Megane Renaultsport Red Bull Racing RB8 which will be available until September 30

RENAULT has announced a new limited edition dubbed Megane Renaultsport Bull Racing RB8, designed to tie in the French manufacturer's hot hatch with the Renault-powered F1 World Champions.
Finished in Twilight Blue, the race

team's famous colours, there are Red Bull Racing graphics at the rear and

the sides.
Platinum Grey details include the F1 blade, door handles, door mirror housing and rear lip. The Megane

Renaultsport Red Bull Racing RBs comes with the same Bridgestone tyres that helped Megane Renaultsport 265 Trophy to establish a new lap record for the Nurburgring. These high-performance tyres are fitted to 19in black 'Steev' wheels with platinum rims. This limited edition version marks the availability of the built-in, connected R-Link multimedia tablet for the Megane Renaultsport range.

nected R-Link multimedia tablet for the Megane Renaultsport range. The system's six functions (naviga-tion, telephony, multimedia, vehicle, systems and R-Link Store applications catalogue) are controlled using either the touchscreen display, the voice-command function or the joystick situ-

ated on the centre console. Along with R-Link, there is now also the 2.0 version of Renaultsport Monitor, which fans of sporty driving will particularly engaging

ularly appreciate.

The limited edition version packs the same features as Megane Renaultsport 265 Cup, including stiffer springs, dampers, anti-roll bar, limited slip differential, grooved discs with Brembo callipers and the potent two-

Brembo callipers and the potent two-litre turbocharged 265hp engine.

The limited edition Megane
Renaultsport Red Bull Racing RB8 will
be available until September 30, 2013.

UK pricing will be made public
closer to the official launch.



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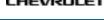
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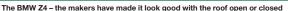




These offers supercede all other offers previously advertised. Cars shown for illustration purposes only. Savings shown against current list prices. Terms and conditions apply. Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Range: Urban - 13.1 (21.6) - 313.9 (0.9), Extra Urban - 26.2 (10.8) - 217.6 (1.3), Combined - 19.5 (14.5) - 235.4 (1.2), CO2 (g/km), Chevrolet Range: Urban - 13.1 (21.6) - 31.9, (0.9), Extra Urban - 26.2 (10.8) - 217.6 (1.3), Combined - 195. (14.5) - 235.4 (1.2), CO2 emissions 34.2/km - 27g/km. Vehicles shown feature metallic paint at an additional cost of 6425 for Aveo, 6445 for Cruze Hatchback, 6470 for Orlando and £495 for Captiva. Offer available until May 31st 2013. ^0% APR Representative. No minimum deposit. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Santander Consumer (UK) plc, RH1 1SR or GMAC PO BOX 6666. Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offers available at participating Dealers only and not available in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all Dealer stock. Warranty expires at 5 years or 100,000 miles, whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment of a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 mile limitation. Years 4 and 5 are an insurance-backed warranty up to a maximum of 100,000 miles. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. Sear warranty is available on retail registrations and at participating Dealers only. Prices correct at time of print. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received.

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Bumper to bumper

BMW Z4
Engines available: 2.0 litre and 3.0 litre petrol
Warranty: Three years, unlimited mileage
Economy: The Z4 can hit 41.5mpg
Insurance group: 33
Prices: From £27,610 to £45,795

www.brindleykia.co.uk BMW keep tin top for sporty Z4

to loosen the tongue of a very senior car company salesperson, who declared with venom "We'll never make another of those." He was talking about the convertible version of his company's big selling hatch, using a clever but compli-

cated steel folding roof to morph the car from closed By lan

to open. Far too much trouble, with motors stopping with the roof half up (or down) and too many leaks onto customers' expensive dresses when it rained.

customers expensive dresses when it rained. Never again!
None of which is meant to apply to any of the following words. They concern the latest version of a sporty BMW with a magic metal roof; the villain in the car park was not a BMW and you can't buy one new any longer.
Other car makers seem to be losing their love affair with metal folding tops and reverting to canvas, on the grounds of cost, reliability and style. It's hard to make a tin top look good when so much room has to be made to hold the roof when it's to hold the roof when it's

down.

Dumpy bottoms seem almost unavoidable, and a long way from the sporty svelteness you can bet the designer had in mind. They play havoc with boot space when they're folded, too.

So well done BMW for making the Z4 look good, open or closed. It remains a complicated way to let the

complicated way to let the sun in, though, and the boot is tiny with the roof folded away.

BMW has had to devise a procial propring feature to

BMW has had to devise a special opening feature to maximise the boot opening aperture when the roof is down, involving a balletic sequence of whirring panels. Clever but slow and pointing up the compromise needed for the feeling of security a motal to preof security a metal top pro-

But enough of the practicalities; the Z4 has just undergone the gentlest of mid-life makeovers, with mid-ile makeovers, with white eyebrows over the headlights and chrome flicks on the side gills that give the car some of its sportiness in profile.

And, yes, hardly anyone

Donaldson

will notice. Bigger news if you're looking for a new Z4 is the choice of a less powerful engine that cuts £2,100 off the price and makes it the least expensive of BMW's roadsters.

The £27,610 St. Drivel8i uses a detuned version of the same 2.0 litre engine you'll find in the more expensive sDrive20i, with 30 fewer horses. I know the 18i ought to be a 1.8 litre engine but BMW long ago stopped playing the logical badge game.

Tempted
Performance is blunted a

Performance is blunted a bit, but the silliness of the

bit, but the silliness of the official tests have both power plants producing identical economy and emissions figures.

You can pay up to £45,795 for a Z4 but a solid 80 per cent of buyers have opted for the 20i and it will be interesting to the solid be interesting to see how many are now tempted to save a little cash at order-

ing time.

If they tick the box for leather upholstery they'll find the bill increasing by which neatly

ind the bill increasing by £1,055, which neatly halves the price advantage over the dearer, more powerful 20i, which has cowhide as standard. Standard kit includes a DAB radio and xenon headlights.

On the road you'll discover a car with mildly over-sensitive steering, a slightly notchy gearbox (and cramped space around the pedals) but with a properly sporty low slung feel and a severe but beautifully built approach to two-person indulgent

ruly built approach to two-person indulgent transport.

With the sun shining and roof stowed, this cheapest way to a Z4 makes sense.

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Number one for sales in the area

THE team of local dealer-ships - Dudley Motor Company, Stourbridge Motor House, Halesowen Motor House and T Wall Garages – is celebrating this month after scooping the award for selling more cars than any other manufacturer

in the area for 2012.

The four dealerships were presented with a No 1 trophy at the

sented With a NO 1 trophy at the recent Vauxhall District Meeting. Tim Barnes, retail operator, commented: "We are extremely proud to receive this award and we are delighted that sales have continued to grow into 2013 – we couldn't have achieved this without the hard work and enthusiasm of the team, so I would just like to say a huge thank you to each and every one of them for their dedication.

Customers

"To us, customer experience is very important and so we always want to make sure that all new or returning customers are able to approach any member of the team and are well looked after.
"We aim for our service to exceed

"We aim for our service to exceed expectations and so I'm keen to ensure there are many more years of satisfied Vauxhall customers to come – here's to what we hope will be another successful year."

The independent, family-owned business is proud to have served motorists in the West Midlands for over 60 years, and with a fantastic range of new and used Vauxhall vehicles and an outstanding aftersales and an outstanding aftersales ice, there's no wonder the dealerservice, there's no wonder the dealer-ship has been trusted by customers for such a substantial amount of time. The business was first founded by



Tim Barnes (retail operator) Rob Gilbert (general manager, Dudley Motor Company) and Stephanie Howson (regional operations for Vauxhall Motors Limited) with the No 1 trophy for achieving the best sales figures in the area

Derrick Grieveson in Worcester in 1953 and operated under the name of Worcester Carsales. The dealership moved to a new site in Hylton Road, Worcester in 1963, and 1973 saw Mr Worcester in 1963, and 1973 saw Mr Grieveson's son and current managing director, Stuart Grieveson, join the family company and more recently three of his children, cementing the future of the family run business. Stuart Grieveson says: "We are immensely proud that we are, and have always been, a privately owned family-run business, as we feel this enables us to put our customers first. At the dealerships, we don't look for

short-term gain, we strive to build strong relationships with our cus-tomers and offer a quality service over a lifetime

With the recent launches of the Vauxhall ADAM and Cascada, it really is an exciting time to be working with the Vauxhall brand.

Stuart Grieveson concludes: "We have a great range of innovative Vaux-hall vehicles on offer, and with our team of experts on hand to assist each and every customer with their enquiry, we're confident we have a vehicle avail-able to suit everyone's needs."

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excluding Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 324 - 88g/km.

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sports clubs



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Promotion winners 2013. We are creating an under 18's youth team to play in The Midland Floodlit League next

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Contact Owen 07514 374005 or Mark 07939 025994 for more details and to reserve a place.



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SPORT

Hancock on track to honour Hughes

CRADLEY legend Greg Hancock has sent his best wishes to the Heathens in their battle for a new track as he prepares to make a one-off return to the West Midlands later this year.

Double World Champion Hancock will ride in the Joe Hughes Invitational at Monmore Green on Sep-tember 16 to honour former rider and equipment supplier Hughes, who died

Hancock, aged 43, started his career with Heathens back in 1989 and remained with the club until their closure in 1996. He is thrilled to be returning to the club for a

meeting which will raise funds for Cancer Research

funds for Cancer Research UK and junior speedway development.
Hancock said: "Obviously I'll be back in the Midlands which is where I spent a good few years with Cradley, and it'll be really nice to meet up with a few people I remember from my time there.
"The club was closed for

"The club was closed for a long time and they never gave up hope – and I really hope they get their own stadium again soon.

stadium again soon.
"For now they are riding
at Wolverhampton, and
I'm sure there will be
plenty of Heathens fans
there for Joe's meeting
which will be great."

Anniversary kit and new advert deals

WALSALL have unveiled the playing kits for their 125th anniversary season along with two new advertising deals.

Designed by Diadora, following a consultation with fams, the kits have been created with the aim of honouring memorable periods from the Saddlers' past.

The home shirt has the white V neck worn by the

The home shirt has the white V neck worn by the successful teams of the 1950s and 60s, along with white pinstripes to commemorate the 1984 run to the League Cup semi-finals.

Back-of-shirt sponsors CAT Communications are to become front-of-shirt sponsor with accountancy firm Dains LLP as back-of-shirt

sor with accountancy firm Dains LLP as back-of-shirt

Weimann in vow as new deal agreed



Happy - Weimann

The put pen to paper on a new three-year deal.

The striker has handed the club a major summer boost and immediately pledged to prove his worth at Villa Park.

worth at Villa Park.

Norwich and Newcastle were interested in the forward, who had a year left on his old deal, as Villa made it a priority to keep the 21-year-old.

The Austria ace signed an improved deal, which keeps him at the club until 2016.

"I feel like I owe the manager and the club because the manager and because the manager and some control of the state of

because the manager backed me last season after he came in," Weimann said.

he came in," Weimann said.
"I have always felt comfortable and really supported at the club.
"The supporters, too, have been brilliant with me and they've really taken to me which I'm delighted about. It means everything to know you

have support like that. It's great to be a part of an exciting future at Villa.

an exciting ruture at Villa.

"We stuck together last season and having so many young players helped because we grew together as a team and improved as well as players. That's why I want to continue to do my best for the club," added Weimann

"I'm really happy I've signed. I love the club and it's been brilliant for me. I have a feeling of being at home here."

being at nome nere.

Weimann scored 12 goals in 38 appearances last term as Villa beat the drop and the former Rapid Vienna youngster admitted he was surprised at his progress. "On a personal level, I didn't expect at the start of the season that it would

go the way it did, with me being involved and starting games almost the whole of the way through," he said.

"The last months of the season we played

"The last months of the season we played really well and got better and better as the season went on. Hopefully, we can continue on like we finished and that will be the challenge."

The Austrian, back from international duty after playing for his country against Sweden last week, also acknowledged that he "owes the manager and the club" having been trusted by Paul Lambert to play in 38 games in all competitions in his breakthrough season.

in his breakthrough season.
"I've been here for six seasons now, having started with the Academy in 2006, and last season was tremendous for me and terrific for the team the way we played over the second half of a really demanding campaign," he said.

Baggies still hope to sign up Toivonen

PREMIER League rivals Norwich have agreed a £4m fee for Albion target Ola Toivonen – but the Baggies

have not given up on signing the PSV Eindhoven striker. The 26-year-old is a long-standing target at The Hawthorns but the Canaries

Hawthorns but the Canaries have made the first move for the Sweden international. He is chasing a switch to the Premier League but PSV's technical director Marcel Brands hinted the story has some way to run after confirming the agreement with Norwich. "There is real interest in Toivonen, but moreover, from more but moreover, from more clubs than Norwich," he

clubs than Norwich," he said.

The experienced frontman is available for a cutprice £4m as he prepares to enter the final year of his PSV contract openly expressing his dissatisfaction with the team's style of football.

Anderlecht forward Dieumerci Mbokani, who Albion's scouts have watched twice, has followed up reports of interest by admitting he also wants a move to England. There are also reports in Spain of an also reports in Spain of an interest in Portugual mid-fielder Tiago who is poised to leave Atletico Madrid.

Tipton host Euro table tennis vets

THE Veterans International THE Veterans International Table Tennis Tournament returns to England on June 28, 29, and 30, at a Black Country venue.

Tipton Sports Centre will host a star-studded line-up.

England will start as

England will start as favourites but may be hard-pressed by the challenge of a strong German team. These two countries have domi-

two countries have domi-nated veteran's table tennis at World and European level for many years. A combined total of 139 players will be playing in categories according to age. In the men's over 40

In the men's over-40 event England have a very event England have a very strong team with Lorestas Trumpauskas leading out Andy Trott, who has had a successful record since com-ing into the veteran cate-gory, and Chris Clinton. They are likely to be extended by the Germans. led by Mattias Lieber. The England B team will also compete.

Lucuzade)

Jordanne smashes back into world top 10 spot

HALESOWEN'S Jordanne Whiley has gone into her second week of wheelchair tennis tournaments in Korea on the crest of a wave.

She has already earned world ranking highs following vic-tory in the women's singles and doubles at the Korea Open.

Whiley has moved up three places in this week's women's singles rankings to a new career high of No.8, after beating world No.7 Yui Kamiji of Japan in the women's singles final at the weekend at the Korea Open in Seoul.

at the weekend at the Korea of After a first round bye, whiley dropped just four games en route to the singles final and edged out Kamiji 6-4, 6-4 to extend her unbeaten record over the recent Japan Open Super Series winner to 3-0. Victory also brought Whiley her second ITF 1 Series women's singles title, just over a month after she claimed her first at the Atlanta Open at the beginning of May.

The British No.2 has subsequently bettered her pre-

The British No.2 has subsequently bettered her previous career best singles ranking of No.9, achieved in April 2011.

Whiley was on the same side of the net as Kamiji for the women's doubles and the top seeds again had a comfortable route to the final, dropping just one game in their semi-final against Korea's Myung-Hee Hwang and Japan's Mio.

Hwang and Japan's Miho Nijo. Just two weeks after Whiley joined close friend Louise Hunt in the Great Britain women's team selected by the Tennis Foun-dation that won the silver medal at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup, they were

Wheelchair tennis

on opposite sides of the net for the doubles final in

Although Whiley and Kamiji made a slow start, they fought back strongly to beat Hunt and Korea's Ju-Yeon Park, 3-6, 6-1, (10-5),

Yeon Park, 3-6, 6-1, (10-5), with Whiley securing the fifth ITF 1 Series doubles title of her career and retaining the title she won with British No.1 Lucy Shuker in 2012.

After first reaching her career best doubles ranking of No.6 in April this year, following the Gauteng Open in South Africa, Whiley has moved up one place this week to regain the women's doubles No.6 ranking.

"It was a really good win for me after Yui won the Japan Open, so I knew she would be on a high.

"At times in the final

would be on a high.

"At times in the final things weren't going my way, but I just found a way to make it work," said Whiley, who turned 21 on Tuesday's first day of this week's Daegu Open, another ITF 1 Series tournament.

Harris the ace in victorious Brummies' pack



Brummie Chris Harris had one of his best runs

THE visit of the Belle Vue Aces looked like it could have gone either way with them getting so close to the Selco

Brummies in a previous meeting.
But the Selco Brummies delivered
a masterful display to hammer the
Aces 54-39. The movements in the
team seemed to pay dividends with
only Jason Doyle having an off night
after some recent high scores but Doyle had some bad luck with deci-

sions. Brummies skipper Danny King dispelled all rumours that the No.1 dispelled all rumours that the No.1 Race Jacket is cursed at Perry Barr with an impressive 9+1 from his four rides, narrowly missing out on a heat 15 call-up to Chris Harris and Ben Barker. Chris Harris enjoyed one of his best performances at home for the Brummies and was rewarded with the Rider of the Night Award.

Team Manager Phil Morris said:

"I'm delighted with the three points, all the boys rode well and the switches I've made in riding positions paid off. We're joint leaders of the Elite League now with Wolverhampton but we've still raced fewer meet-

ton but we've suin raceu rewer meetings,"
Birmingham: Chris Harris 12+1, Ben Breve
9+2, Danny King 9+1, Nico Covatti 7+3, Marti
Smolinski 7+1, Josh Auty 6+2, Jason Doyle 4+
Belle Vuer Matej Zagar 17, Craig Cook 9, Mag
nus Zetterstrom 6, Ales Drmyl 4+1, Artu
Mroczka 1, Keuiw Nüblert 1, Kauko Niemenen 1

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THE CHAMPIONS OF 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

New deal Weimann vows payback for club
Page 39



Brum bikes Harris is the ace in the race pack



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Depleted side take the match by storm

DUDLEY produced a stunning 62-30 demolition of strongly-fancied neighbours Coventry, writes Rich Jones. And they did it without the services of injured key duo Dan Greenwood (shoulder) and Gareth Isherwood (back) who pulled out in the build-up to the local derby. Team boss Will Pottinger was thrilled with his side. "We were maybe expecting it to go down to the wire, but in the end the lads put in an excellent display," he said. "Four of the lads made double figures, another was paid for double figures and you can't ask for much more than that."

you can't ask for much more than that."

A 5-1 in the opening race

from flying reserve Max Clegg and No.1 Ashley Morris set the tone as Dudley blitzed to three maximums

biltzed to three maximums in the opening four races. Heat 13 saw a horror crash for Morris after James Sarjeant fell in front of him – yet he dusted himself down to take the flag alongside Lewis Blackbird in the

re-run. The two suffered just one

defeat apiece.

DUDLEY: Ashley Morris

Parke 13, Lewis DUDLEY: Ashley Morris
13+1, Paul Starke 13, Lewis
Blackbird 12+1, Max Clegg
12+1, Nathan Greaves 7+3,
Darryl Ritchings 5+3, Gareth
Isherwood R/R
COVENTRY: Robert Branford 14, Joe Jacobs 6, James Sarjeant 4, Luke Crang 3+1,
Brendan Johnson 2, Martin
Knuckey 1, Ryan Terry-Daley 0.

Track rivals battle again

ONE of speedway's greatest rivalries will be renewed when Wolves and Heathens lock horns once again. Memories of the old Dud-

Memories of the old Dud-ley-Wolves Trophy days will come flooding back when a young Wolves side face National League Dudley Heathens at Monmore Green on Monday, July 1. The fixture is in memory

The fixture is in memory of Gary Peterson, a talented young rider who lost his life on the track at Monmore in 1975. The teams will be racing for the BBC WM Trophy.

ing for the BBC WM Trophy.

Heathens currently use
Monmore as their home
track and will be looking to
put one over their hosts.

The meeting will be a traditional 15-heat team clash
followed by an old fashioned
'rider of the night' second

half for the Gary Peterson Memorial Shield.

Admission for the event is adults £12, concessions £8, juniors £2, under-11s free.

Popular Hamill awaiting Heathens return

CALIFORNIAN glamour boy Billy Hamill will make his first visit to a Dudley Heathens event next month.

thens event next month.

Hamill, who was one of the most popular riders ever to wear Cradley colours, will be guest of honour when they host the FAST Golden Hammer at Wolverhampton on Tuesday, July 16.

Hamill won the world title in 1996, ironically the same season he won his one and only Hammer crown when Heathens were riding at Stoke.

were riding at Stoke.

And speaking from his Californian home in the early hours of Saturday

morning, Hamill was excited about meeting the thousands of fans once again.

"I'm just so looking forward to seeing everyone again," said Hamill. "I'm following the Dudley Heathens from here in California on the website and the way the supporters are getting behind those young kids is superb.

"I'we heard about the young hows at

"I've heard about the young boys at reserve, Max Clegg and Nathan Greaves, and I look forward to meeting up with them at the Hammer.

"My time at Cradley shaped my adult life. My memories of Dudley Wood are special and I really wish the Dudley guys well in what they are trying to do.

Support

"I know what wonderful support is there, they were awesome to me throughout my career and I can't wait to see everyone."

Fans will have the chance to meet Hamill for pictures and autographs before the meeting and he will also address the crowd during the interval.

The meeting is once again promoted in association with Dudley Stroke Association who are promoting their FAST message – Face, Arms, Speech, Time, if a stroke is suspected dial 999.

It promises to be another memorable night with the entire Heathens team in action along with the best of the National

Heathens head to Berwick for an interleague challenge on Saturday and their next home meeting is against deadly rivals Mildenhall in the National League on June 25.

Tank all fired up for Civic

DUDLEY'S Ryan Aston is hoping to give fight fans their money's worth when he tops a professional bill for the first time at Wolverhampton Civic Hall.

The 22-year-old also has the chance to win his first paid title, the International Masters middleweight crown, against Portuguese-born Spaniard Yuri Pompilio. They clash in a 10-round match on Saturday, July 6 – a second shot for Aston after losing his Midlands title tilt.

Aston was beaten in two rounds that night – and a rematch with his nemesis, Nottingham's Curtis Valentine, is another target.

However, Aston claims his rival has 'gone missing from the gym' and instead will take on international opposition over a title distance.

And "Tank' is hooning for a

take on international opposition over a title distance.
And 'Tank' is hoping for a long night's work, to get vital ring time under his belt. He said: "It's great that it's a title, but just to go the 10 rounds would be useful

To round would be active for me."
Headlining at the Civic means a lot to the former Priory Park ABC amateur.
He's competed at the venue once and did so in style, taking out Telford's Kieron Gray in less than a round in February 2011.

Hopefuls can net tennis coaching

TENNIS hopefuls are being offered the chance to get some free coaching in Hale-

on Saturday, June 29 the Halesowen Athletic & Cycling Club will be holding the coaching sessions from noon until 5pm at the Manor Way facility.

For more information contact Geoff Barrie 07838 236691.

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HALESOWEN SUN IRST TIME CLAS

Halesowen 1st XI 186 v Stourbridge 1st XI 244

IT was a first meeting Halesowen Firsts are unlikely to forget as their local rivals became joint leaders of Division Two of the Birmingham and District Premier League by winning

joint leaders of Division Iwo of the Birmingham and District Premier League by winning this inaugural derby.

Despite the presence of both teams in the Birmingham league for a decade, the two teams met for the first time for a Saturday fixture.

Stourbridge skipper Richard Bradley won the openers Alex Bingham and James Lawley cancelled the pace of Danny Jeavons and Andy Roberts.

Bingham led the partnership with superb drives and cuts to the boundary. Halesowen skipper Wes Griffiths was forced to use the spin of Maharoof Azam and Rameez Pinjara early on. Defiant Lawley was first to go in the 19th over off spinner Pinjara trapping him libw for 31 with the total 82. Opener Bingham became Pinjara's second lbw victim with the Stour total on 101 off 22 overs and his score 56.

Skipper Richard Bradley took the score to 124 with Audy Alexander when he too became an lbw victim for eight falling to Pinjara in the 30th over.

Adam Lawley, at No.5, and Alexander avoided a Stour collapse enforcing a bowling change from spin to pace. In Philip Croft's third over Alexander was caught on the boundary for 45 with Stour on 175 off 39.

The next pair of Lawley and Matt Bradley looked solid but Griffiths, reverting to spin, tempted Lawley to drive Maharoof Azam to long-on to be caught for 42.



Derby day as James Lawley of Stourbridge moves to fend off the ball from Daniel Jeavons of Halesowen

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